



Mount Saga Marie Stevel and the Carl of the Steve



A Full, Clear, and Authorised

ACCOUNT

of the LATE

CONSPIRACY in Portugal;

THE

Horrid ATTEMPT upon the LIFE of his Most FAITHFUL MAJESTY;

The real Manner of discovering the PLOT,

And the dreadful Execution of the Conspirators.

In a LETTER from a Minister of State in Portugal, to the Envoy of a Foreign Court in England.

Translated from the Original PORTUGUESE.
With Notes, by the TRANSLATOR.

Alfo a large INTRODUCTION,

CONTAINING

A full ACCOUNT of the KINGDOM of Portugal, its GOVERNMENT, REVENUES, FORCES, RELIGION, and of the GENIUS, MANNERS and CUSTOMS of the Natives; an Entertaining HISTORY of Portugal, and more particularly of the Rife of the present ROYAL FAMILY.

AND

A Representation of the Execution drawn upon the Spot.

LONDON:

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A Republished to Exercise to two upon the Spot

TONDOM:

with the Beauty String of the Mail Series

PREFACE.

HE following Sheets contain the most authentick Information that can be obtained, of the real Motives for the late Conspiracy against, and of the horrid Attempt upon his Most Faithful Majesty, with whatever afterwards occurred in relation to that dreadful Affair, which now so much employs the Attention of the Publick.

The various Relations already published, feem to be rather the Fruits of wanton Imagination, than a real Knowledge of Facts; And, therefore, my noble Friend, who is well known for his generous Regard to this Country, permitted me to translate the following Letter, for the better Information thereof. If I have taken some Liberties in commenting upon the illustrious Writer of it, I hope neither my Patron will be offended, or the Reader think the worse of my Principles or Opinions.

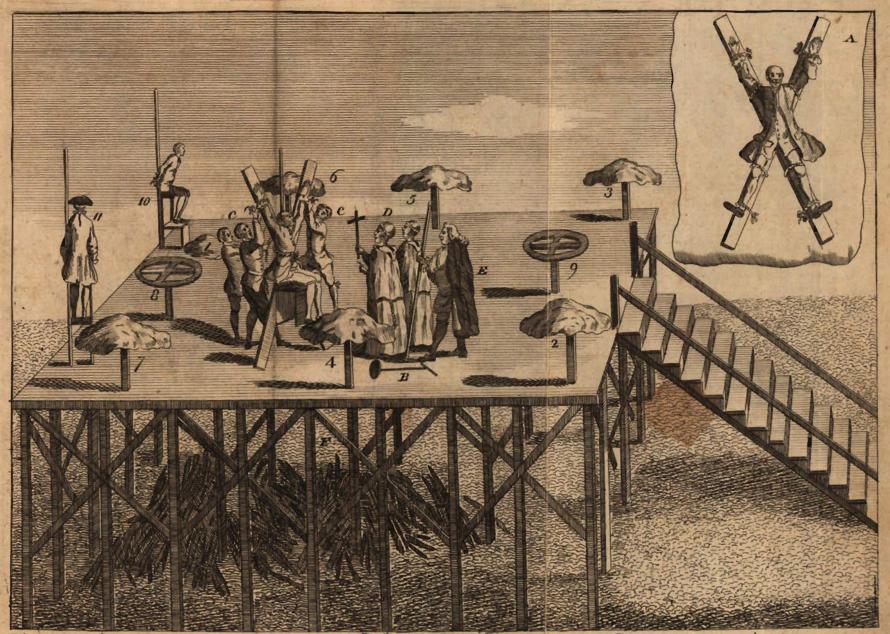
The EDITOR.

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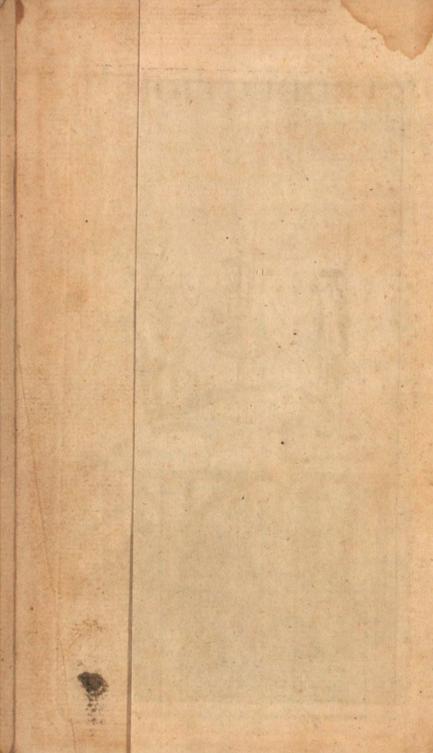
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The manner of Secution of Conspirators at Lisbon Jan 13th 759 Engraved from an Original Drawing Made on the Spot.



INTRODUCTION.

or TUGAL, is situated between the 7th and 10th Degrees of Western Longitude, and the 37th and 42d Degrees of North Latitude, and is the most westerly Kingdom of Europe. Its Boundary, on the North and East, is the Kingdom of Spain, of which it was anciently a Province, and on the West and South, the Allantick Ocean; and it is not more than about 300 Miles

in length and 100 in breadth.

If Portugal is not so fertile as Spain, in compenfation of that defect, the Inhabitants are not tortured with the intense Heat that reigns in the latter; particularly on the Sea Coast, where they are gently fann'd by fuccessive Sea Breezes; and tho' throughout the Country, some of the barrenest Mountains, appear and disgust the Eyes of the Stranger, yet towards their Bases, Vines are planted, which, crawling on every Side with a kind of wild Luxuriance, wonderfully chear the Traveller's Sight with their agreeable Verdure. The Country does not produce Corn, sufficient for the Inhabitants Subfiftence, for they are very frequently supplied from England and Holland; notwithstanding which, the Peasants and Country People, are forced to content themselves with Indian Corn, which is not to be praifed, for any remarkable delicacy or fineness. Their Cattle are lean, owing to the nature and scarcity of their Pasturage, and the Flesh is far from being relishable to an English Palate. But this Soil produces an amazing Plenty of Olives, Oranges, Lemons, Chefnuts, Almonds, Figs and Raifins, and the generous Grape feems intended as a Recompence for the many Deficiencies Portugal labours under. The Air is generally reckoned healthful, and is often tempered with

refreshing Gales, and fruitful Showers.

The chief Rivers, that Water the Kingdom of Portugal with their Streams, are the Tagus, the Guadiana, the Minho and the Douro, which have all their rife in Spain, cross the Kingdom of Portugal, and discharge themselves into the Atlantick Ocean; the Mondego, which, rifing on the Eastern Side of Portugal, runs West, and falls also into the Atlantick, as do three other Rivers, the Vouga, the Lima, and the Cada. The principal Bays and Harbours are those of Lisbon, St. Ubes, Oporto and Lagos. The most noted Capes or Promontories, are those of, 1. St. Vincent, which lies in 10° W. Long. and in 36°: 55' of N. Lat. is the most S. Westerly Promontory of Portugal, and 25 Miles West of Lagos: 2. Cape Espichel: 3. Cape Roxa, or Roxent, commonly called the Rock of Lilbon, in Long. 10° W. and Lat. 38°: 50' fituated in the Atlantick Ocean, at the North Entrance of the River Tagus, and 22 Miles West of Lisbon; and 4. Cape Mondego.

Portugal contains Six Provinces, viz.

1. 2. Entre Minbos Douro and Tralos Montes, on the North.

3. 4. Beira and Estremadura, in the Middle; and 5. 6. Entre Tayo and Guadiana, commonly called

Alentejo and Algarva, on the South.

Of each of these I shall say somewhat briefly. The Province of Entre Minhos Douro, has the River Minho on the North, the Douro on the South, and the Atlantick Ocean on the West. The Cultivation of Vineyards is greatly encreased of late Years, in this Province, occasioned by the English having taken off such Quantities of their Portugal Wines, tho' the Vines are smaller than those of the southern Parts of the Kingdom. The chief Towns in this Province are Oporto, Viana.

Viana, Braga, Caminha, Moncaon, Ponte de Lima, Guimaraez and Amarante.

Port, Porto, or Oporto, formerly Portucale, stands on the Side of a craggy Mountain, the Foot of which is laved by the River Douro. It is about three Miles from the Mouth of the River. When Ships are in the Harbour, they have very good anchorage and commodious riding; but the Entrance is very difficult, by reason of the Rocks and Sands, which make a Bar that must be pass'd at high Water, and cannot be attempted without the Assistance of a coasting Pilot. The Streets are tolerably commodious and well paved; but to walk in them much is really excessively tiresome, by reason of the Inequalities, and frequent Afcents and Descents of the Ground the City stands upon. Ships lie here close to a fine Key, where they lade and unlade. The Inhabitants, exclusive of Merchants who repair here for Traffick, may be computed at 5600 or 6000 Souls. It is a Bishop's See, has an Academy for young Gentlemen to learn their Exercifes, and one of the fovereign Courts here hold their Session. There, is also an Arsenal, Docks and Yards for fitting out Ships of War. The Town is naturally inaccessible by Sea, but on the land Side it is fortified only with an old Wall, fome weak and almost ruinous Towers, and a fmall Fort with 4 Bastions.

Viana de Foz de Lima, is pleasantly situated on the Sea Coast, 36 Miles from Oporto, has a good Harbour, but of a difficult Entrance, and is adorned with some good Buildings. There is a Citadel, regularly fortissed, at the Entrance of the

Port, and it is now a Place of good Trade.

Braga, is an Antient City, the See of an Archbishop; stands about 15 Miles from the Ocean, Eastward, and 180 North of Liston. It has five

Parishes and contains about 3000 Families. The Buildings are more remarkable for their Antiquity, than for their Elegance. The Archbishop has a Sword, as well as a Cross carried before him, being temporal as well as spiritual Lord of the City and District. Braga is the Capital of the Province, and the Country about Braga, produces Corn, Wine and Fruit, and large Flocks of Sheep are fed in their plentiful Pastures.

The Province of Tralos Montes, besides its Capital Braganza the antient Brigantium, has the Towns of Miranda de Douro, Chaves, Villa Real,

Almeida, and Castel Rodrigo.

Braganza is fituated on a Plain, and divided into the old and new Towns, the former defended by antique and double Walls, and the latter has a Fort of fome Strength, with four Bastions, to defend it. It may contain about 600 or 700 Families. It is also the Capital of the Dutchy of Braganza, the Patrimony of his present most faithful

Majesty.

The Province of Beira, is extremely pleafant and beautifully planted with Vines and Olives, Coimbra, or Conimbra, the Capital, stands on an Eminence, on the North Side of the River Mondego at the Extremity of a beautiful Plain, 90 Miles North of Liston and 18 Miles from the Sea. It is the most celebrated University in the Kingdom, is a Bishop's See, and contains one of the Tribunals of the Inquisition. In it are seven Parishes, five Monasteries, four Nunneries, 16 Colleges, a House of Mercy, and an Hospital. The Inhabitants amount to about 5000 Families. The most remarkable Fabrick here is the Bridge, built of Stone, which has 29 Arches. There are two rows of Arches, one above another, which form a covered Way, thro' which one passes without being expos'd to the Weather. The Jesuits College,

College, Aqueduct, and fome of the Churches are admired, but the Town itself cannot boast of much

elegance.

The great Towns in the Province of Estremadura, besides Lisbon, the Capital of the Kingdom and Province, are Setubal, or St. Ubes, Almada, Benevento, Salvaterra, Mugen, Tomar, Pendragon, Leiria,

Alcobaca, Peniche, Santaren and Alanguer.

Liston is feated on the ascent of a Hill, within the mouth of the Tagus, and extends along the North Shore thereof, in the form of a Crefcent. It is about nine Miles East from the Ocean. Liston is in length about fix Miles; but the breadth is very unequal, and tho' it affords a most delightful Prospect from the Harbour, yet the Spectator finds himfelf greatly deceived when he enters the City, the Streets being extremely narrow and steep. Before the late Calamity, it was computed there were 30,000 Houses in this City, and 200,000 Inhabitants. It is furrounded by an old Wall and Towers, and has a Castle on a Hill, which commands the Place, but which would be of very little Defence in Case of an Attack. There were in it 40 Parish Churches, and 40 Monasteries and Nunneries. The Square before the Palace, was the finest in Liston; the Palace formed one Side of it, another Side ran along the River, and was supported by a Wall, and on the opposite Side were a Range of fine Buildings. From this charming Place you have a delightful Prospect of the River, where large Fleets are constantly riding at Anchor, and great Numbers of Ships going in, and failing out. On this Spot they celebrate their Bull-Feasts, and this is the fatal Place, where the infernal Inquisition, put to Death their unfortunate Victims, at which Times the ignorant, fuperstitious Populace will shout and exult, as if it were the most fignal Rejoicing. The King's Palace was an Irregular Pile, and not greatly Admired. The Houses of the Nobility were grand Structures, of hewn Stone, with Yards and Gardens; but those of the Citizens old, and very ill contrived, with Windows of Lattice. The Streets lying upon a Descent, is a kind of Advantage; because, as is customary at Edinburgh and Madrid, in the Night Time all manner of Filth is thrown into them. The Dominicans Church shone with Gold, Silver and precious Relicks, and, over the Door, were the Names of all those who had been burnt by the Inquisition. The Santa Casa or Palace of the Inquisition, as well as the Convent of the Dominicans are adjoining. The dreadful Nature and Proceedings of that vile Tribunal, are too well known to need Description. The entrance of the Harbour of Lisbon is hazardous and requires a Pilot; but, when in it, Ships ride very fecurely, covered by the Hills on one Side, and by the opposite high Banks on the other. This Port has more Foreign Traffick, than any in Europe, fave London and Amsterdam, and the English have generally fifty or fixty Sail in the Harbour at a time. The Palace of Alcantara, lies a Mile West of Lisbon, is a magnificent Structure, and much admired for its fine Gardens. The delightful Country about it, the Grottos, Fountains and Cascades; the Brooks and Canals, whose borders shone with Flowers of various Dyes; the Orange and Citron Trees, which perfumed the Air, made it an earthly Paradife. Belem, or Betblebem, is the Name of a Town, a Monastery and a Fort, which latter the Ships are obliged to falute, shew their Discharges from the Custom-House at, &c. It is a royal Garrison, and the upper Stories are Prisons for state Criminals. The Village of Cascaes, lies fix Miles below Belem, before which is a Road, that Ships frequently Anchor in. The two Channels of the Tagus, which all Ships enter, are defended by two strong Forts. Thus stood this opulent City, this Seat of Riches, Ignorance, Superstition and Perfecution, before the late terrible Earthquake of Nov. 1755, which, with its attendant Flames, in a manner ruined and laid waste the City of Lisbon, which may be imagined, at present, to yield a Prospect of tottering Ruins, defaced Structures, and Temporary Buildings, run up for the immediate Service of its remaining Inhabitants, and those who have fince resorted thither.

The Province of Alentejo, contains, besides its Capital Ebora, the Towns of Estremos, Elvas, Campo Major, Aronches, Portalegre, Olivenza, Villa Viciosa, Moura, Serpa, Mertola, Beja, Portel, Viana, Alcazar de Sal, St. Jago de Cacem, and

Sines.

Ebora is about 60 Miles S. E. of Liston, it is furrounded by an old Wall and Towers, and contains about 4000 Inhabitants. The Mountains and Vallies about it are exceeding fruitful, and the Mountains contain some filver Mines.

Estremos, is about 20 Miles N. E. of Ebora. It

contains about 2000 Inhabitants.

Elvas is 24 Miles to the Eastward of Estremos, and being only six Miles from the Spanish Frontier of Estremadura, is very strongly fortisted, and defended by a Castle all built of hewn Stone. The Town is situated on a Hill. It contains between 2000 and 3000 Inhabitants. There is a Cistern at Elvas so large, that it will hold Water sufficient for the Inhabitants for six Months. It is every Way one of the strongest Fortresses in the Kingdom.

The Province of Algarva, contains the Towns of Faro, Lagos, Castro, Marin, Tavila, Silves,

Villa Nova de Portimao, Albor and Sagrez.

Faro is a considerable Port Town, strong and situated upon the Ocean, in a Bay between Cape St. Vincent and the Mouth of the Guadiana. It is defended by a Castle, and several other Works. It contains about 2000 Inhabitants, most of whom employ themselves in sishing.

Lagos stands on a noble Bay in the Ocean, about 15 Miles from Cape St. Vincent to the Eastward. There are here about 2000 Inhabitants.

mostly, also, employed in the Fishery.

The Islands of the Azores, Tercera, or the Western Islands, which are subject to the Portuguese, are in Number nine, lying between the 36th and 40th Degrees of Latitude, and between the 23th and 32th Degrees of Western Longitude, 300 Leagues Westward of Portugal. They are, St. Michael's, St. Mary's, Tercera, Gratiosa, St. George's, Pico, Fayal, Flores and Corvo. They produce Plenty of Corn, Fruits, Cattle, Fish and Fowl, and a thin Sort of Wine. Tercera has a tolerable good Harbour, and is the Seat of the Governor; its chief Town Angra.

The Madeiras lie in 16° of West Longitude and between 32° and 33° of North Latitude, in the Atlantick Ocean, 300 Miles North of the Canary Islands. The largest, called Madeira, is about 120 Miles in Circumference, and produces prodigious Quantities of a well known and excellent Wine, which keeps best in the hottest Weather, and hottest Climates. The other Islands are very small, and produce little Wine. They were planted by

the Portuguese in 1425.

The Portuguese have numerous Settlements in Asia, even from the Cape of Good Hope to China, the principal whereof is Goa, the Seat of their Viceroy of the Indies. Goa is a great, strong City and Sea Port, situated in an Island eight Miles from the Mouth of the River Mandona, in the King-

Kingdom of Decan, on the Malabar Coast. It has several Times defended itself against the Dutch and the Natives.

In Africa the Portuguese have several Factories, and they are Sovereigns of the Cape Verd

Islands, &c.

In America, the Portuguese possess that extensive maritime Country called Brazil, which extends from the River Amazon, under the Equator, to the River La Plata, in 35 Degrees South Latitude, being upwards of 3000 Miles long, from North to South, but not above 200 Miles wide. From this Country the King of Portugal receives the greatest Part of his Revenue, the Produce of its Mines

being immense.

Portugal is an absolute Monarchy, and the Crown is hereditary; the Cortes, or three Estates have long ago bartered their Share in the Legislature, or been forcibly robbed of it. A Female (it is a Maxim) cannot transfer the Succession to a foreign Prince by Marriage. The Titles of the King of Portugal are, King of Portugal and the Algarves; Lord of Guinea, and of the Navigation, Conquest and Commerce of Ethiopia, Arabia, Persia, India, Brazil, &c. And in the Year 1748, the Pope added to his Titles, that of Most Faithful Majesty. The Laws are contained in three Volumes in Duodecimo, formed principally upon the Civil Law and Custom immemorial.

The King of Portugal, as to his Strength and Importance, may be faid to be the weakest of all the maritime Powers at Sea; nor are his Land Forces either very numerous or very well disciplined: So that, was it not for his being a great Factor, as it were, for the rest of Europe, Portugal would long since have been swallowed up

by its more potent Neighbour the Spaniard.

The annual Revenues of the Crown are computed at 3 Millions Sterling, fince the Discovery of the rich

Brazil

Brazil Mines. The Duties on Goods which are very high, are farmed out every three Years. The Duty on Snuff alone, amounts to 50000 Crowns a Year. The King has a confiderable Duty from every Order of Knights, of which he is Grand Mafter, and he has confiderable Sums for certain Bulls, by the Pope's Permission. The Burden of Taxes

very moderately affects the Nobility. The Portuguese export Red and White Port Wines, Oranges, Lemons, Citrons, and various other Fruits, Salt, &c. all their own Produce. They also export the Produce of their Settlements in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America; of which those of Brazil are the most considerable, viz. Sugar, Tobacco, Rum, Cotton, Indigo, Hides, Train-Oil, Dying-Woods, Drugs, and amazing Treasures of Gold, Silver, and Diamonds. By this means, though the weakest, they may be faid to be the richest People in the World; yet as they have few Manufactures, they import all or most of their Cloathing, Furniture, &c. which occafions the Balance of Trade to be much in the Fayour of the Nations that chiefly trade to Portugal. In short, like their Neighbours the Spaniards, they are rich, but proud, ignorant and indolent, and thence are abject Slaves at home, and absolutely obliged, for their very Existence, to their Weakness, and the Benefits other Countries reap from their Riches and their Vices.

The Golden Coins of Portugal a	re,	saraq	ALL LAND
which how many to appropriate with the	1.	S.	d.
The Moeda, or Moidore, value -	0	13	6
The Double Moeda — — —	1	7	0
Johannes's	3	12	0
Half Quarter Pieces, &c. in Propo	ortio	on.	vd.

Silver Coins.

Date Peand one

The Crusado, or Silver Ducat — 0 2 10
The Patack, or Patagon — 0 3 4

Accounts are kept in Reas, an imaginary Coin. 1000 Reas make one Milrea. A Crusado of Silver is 480 Reas.

The Religion professed in Portugal, is that of the Romish Church, and it is practised no where with fuch Groffness of Ignorance and Superstition, as in this Kingdom: Infomuch that Morality is entirely subservient to the Dictates and Decrees of the Church, and a false Devotion and implicit Faith fupply the Place of Christianity, Humanity, and even of common Honesty. To see a Set of People refort feven or eight Times a Day to their Churches and Chapels; wearing an Image of the bleffed Virgin, and tormenting and afflicting themselves with Fasts and Penances; in the holy Week before Easter, some fastening themselves to Crosses, in their Shirts, with extended Arms, in Imitation of our Saviour; others walking over Rocks and Mountains, to some distant Shrine, barefooted, to perform their Devotions; eating nothing in Lent, but the Entrails of Beasts, where Fish is not to be got, and also every Wednesday and Friday: Who would not, I fay, expect that People fo humble, fo devout, fo contrite, were generally to be found in the Practice of every christian Virtue. Inflead of which, no where in the World, can there be discovered such an universal Depravity of Manners, fuch a Want of every worthy Principle that should adorn the human Soul. This, as evident a Proof as any that can be produced, that the Romish Superstition is the grand Corruption of that pure and undefiled Religion,

ligion, which breaths nothing but Peace and Good-Will towards all Mankind, and inspires the most exalted private Virtue and publick Benevolence.

At the holy Season, you walk no where in the Streets, but you find Priests and Friars endeavouring to excite the Passions of their Auditors, by Images and Representations suited to their gross Imaginations. He who can make them weep fastest, is applauded as the best Preacher, and there is not the least Application made to

their Reason or Understanding.

Solemn Processions are frequent among them; but the most considerable is that on Good-Friday. "When," fays Salmon *, " all the Religious Orders attend with the Members of the feveral Tribunals, Councils, and Companies of Tradefmen in their Cities, and even the King himself sometimes, attended by all his Court, with Wax-Torches in their Hands. The Nobility, and Perfons of Distinction, are followed by their Servants with lighted Flambeaux; every thing has a mournful Air; the King's Guards have their Arms and Drums covered with Black, and beat a dead March, as at the Funeral of some General; Trumpets and other mulical Instruments found difmally, and all the Colours and Croffes are covered with black Crape; Machines and Pageants are erected, whereon all the Parts of our Saviour's Passion are represented: True Penitents, in these Processions, lash and cut themselves unmercifully, hoping to take Heaven by this holy Violence on themselves; while others, it is said, are no less severe on their naked Bodies, to shew their Passion for their Mistresses, all the Ladies in the Place standing in the Balconies to see the Pro-

^{*} Universal Traveller, Vol. II. p. 319.

ceffion: But this is fuch a Piece of Gallantry as I believe was scarce ever heard of in a Protestant Country. There are other Penitents who drag heavy Crosses after them, and perform other grievous Penances, and these People of Quality masked, and attended by their Servants likewife masked. who support and affist them in their dolorous Pasfage; for fome, it is faid, have loft their Lives by over-acting their Parts. Nor is it uncommon to begin these Exercises a Fortnight or three Weeks before Easter, and continue them every Wednesday and Friday, at least, till that Festival. The Ladies of Lisbon will be offended if the Men feem to favour themselves, and do not obferve the Blood follow the Whip: For the Devotion of these Gentlemen, whether it be directed to Heaven, or their Mistresses, is supposed to be proportionable to the Wounds-and Lashes they receive from their own Hands. These are the Exercifes of the devout Spaniards and Portuguese on Days of Fasting and Humiliation; but on great Festivals, and rejoicing Days, the Scene is very different; for then they expose the richest Shrines. and all the Treasures of their Churches to publick View: They are dreft in their best Habits, and their People play upon mufical Instruments. and dance in the Processions, and before their Images, but here also in the hottest Weather, when the Sun shines out in its full Brightness, they carry lighted Torches in their Hands, which together with the Sun Beams over their Heads, almost melt the fuperstitious Crowd. The Balconies and Windows are hung with Tapestry, &c. and the Ladies, dreffed in their richest Cloathes and Jewels, are permitted to fland and fee the Procession, without a Latice before them; and upon these Occasions it is, that the young Inamoratoes of both Sexes have an Opportunity of shewing fhewing themselves, and discovering their Pasfion to the greatest Advantage; for as has been intimated already, Venus and Cupid, in these hot Countries, seem to have as many Adorers as any Saint among them, many of them frequenting their Churches and Processions chiefly to have an Opportunity of carrying on their Amours.

The King by a Grant of the Pope, nominates to all Archbishopricks and Bishopricks, there being three of the former, viz. Those of Lisbon, Braga, and Ebora, and ten of the latter in Portugal. The Inquifition that well known, that Diabolical, unchristian Institution reigns here with almost uncontroulable Authority, and prevents the Portuguese from becoming either better or wifer. No Subject is exempted from the Jurisdiction of this cruel Tribunal, and the Methods of Caption by, and their after Proceedings, are directly calculated to overcome all Sense of Conscience, Honouror Generosity; and, in the Burning of a profess'd Heretick, fo much Cruelty, fuch inhuman Torture is practifed, as must for ever raise Detestation, in the Minds of all fuch as have the least Tincture of Tenderness for their Fellow-Creatures. The Universities in Portugal are three, viz. Lisbon, Ebora and Coimbra: There is a Patriarch at Lisbon, superior to the Archbishops and Bishops.

Before I enter upon the Portuguese History, I shall give my Readers, a Chronological Table of

their Kings.

Kings of Portugal.

DIES STREET, THE REST OFFICE	ATTER STREET, THE PERSON OF TH
I. Alphonsus, or Alonso,	5. Alphonfus III. 1260
began to Reign	6. Dionysius 1279
-019 38 31 180 1170	7. Alphonsus IV. 1325
2. Sancho 1185	8. Peter 1357
3. Alphonsus II. 1212	9. Ferdinand 1368
4. Sancho II. 1223	10. John 1385
maranel	11. Figurard

11. Edward	433 19.	Philip II. of Portu-
12. Alphonsus V. 1	438	gal 1598
13. John 11.	481 20.	Philip III. 1621
14. Emanuel 1.	495 21.	John IV. 1640
15. John III. 1	521 22.	Alphonsus VI. 1656
16. Sebastian 1	557 23.	Pedro, or Peter II.
17. Henry I	578	1683
18. Philip II. of S	pain 24.	John V. 1706
Seey or thong 1	580 25.	Foseph 1750

The present Royal Family of Portugal, are, Don Joseph, of Braganza, King of Portugal, Son of John V. who was born on the 6th of June, 1714. On January 9, 1728-9, he was married to Mary Anne Victoria, Infanta of Spain. This Princess had been Married before, at four Years of Age, to the present King of France; but to the great Mortification of Spanish Pride, sent Home again by the then Regent, the Duke of Orleans. They have the following Issue.

Donna Maria, Princess of Beira, born Dec. 17,

1734.

Donna Maria Anna, born Oct. 8, 1736.

Donna Maria Francisca, born Dec. 21, 1739. Donna Maria Francisca Benedictina, born July 25, 1746.

Don Pedro, the King's Brother, was born Jan.

5, 1717.

Don Antonio, Uncle to the King, was born Mar.

Don Emanuel, another Uncle, was born August

3, 1697.

Portugal being once a Province of Spain, its History is blended with that of Spain, till it was recovered from the Moors by Alonso VI. King of Leon and Castile, in 1093. Prince Henry a younger Son of Robert Duke of Burgundy, amongst other noble Volunteers, assisted him in the expulsion of those

those Infidels, and was rewarded by Alonso with his natural Daughter Therefa, for a Wife; who also created him Earl of Portugal, or rather of its northern Provinces, then subdued, with a Grant of of the rest as soon as they should be recovered from the Moors. Henry was succeeded by his Son Alphonso, who subdued the southern Provinces and assumed the Title of King of Portugal. Alphonso III. who came to the Crown in 1223, married the natural Daughter of Alphonfo X. King of Castile, and had with her the Province of Algarve, as her Dower. This Race of Kings expired in the Person of Peter, whose natural Son John was elected to the Throne, in 1385. John II. projected the Discovery of a Way to the East-Indies round the Cape of Good Hope, and the Castle of Del Mina was built by his Orders, to fecure the Poffession of the Coast of Guinea. He was succeeded by his Cousin Emanuel, in 1495. It was in this Reign, the most glorious of the Portuguese Annals, that their Fleets arrived first in India, and supplied this Part of the World with the Riches and rare Commodities of that Country, which before this Time were brought to Europe by the Venetians, Genoese, Pisans, and others in the Mediterranean, by the way of Egypt and the Levant. In his Time, Brazil, in South America was planted, as well as the East Coast of Africa, and the Treasures that thence flowed into the Kingdom, made his Reign the Golden Age of Portugal. He was succeeded by his Son John III. in 1521, who extended the Portuguese Conquests and Settlements in Afia, Africa, and America, and fent Numbers of Missionaries out, to China, India, Africa and the Brazils, to propagate the Christian (Romish) Religion. He restored Learning, Arts and Sciences at Home, and in every thing approved himself a worthy Successor of his illustri(25)

ous Father. John died in 1557, and was fuc-ceeded by his Grandson, Don Sebastian, then only three Years of Age, his Uncle, Cardinal Henry taking upon him the Administration during his Minority. Sebastian was but just come of Age, when he was fued to by Maley Mahomet, King of Morocco, for his Aid against Muley Moloc his Nephew, who after deposing him, had usurped his Throne. Sebastian, whose Mind was of the most heroick Cast, immediately affembled an Army, and, attended by great Numbers of his Nobility, all emulous of Glory, and passing over to A. frica, joined Muley Mahomet his Ally. They, for some Time, delayed trying the Fortune of a general Engagement, and kept, strongly intrenched, near the Sea Shore; but Muley Moloc, who was a skilful General, at length, by seeming to retire, and to be fearful of the Consequences of a Battle, drew Sebastian further up the Country, who followed the wiley, retreating Enemy with all the Confidence of gaining a Victory, and terminating, by one Blow, a War he had engaged in with fo much Imprudence, yet Generofity and Bravery. Sebastian at the Head of 13,000 Portuguese, was soon attacked by 40,000 Horse and some few Infantry, with which Muley Moloc endeavoured to hem him in, on all Sides. At the Beginning of this Engagement, the Portuguese Infantry defeated the Moorish Foot; but the Moorish Horse were not to be broken, notwithstanding the Efforts of Sebastian and the Bravery of his little Army. In short, hemmed in by this veteran Cavalry on every Side, the Portuguese Cavalry was driven back on their Infantry, whom they trampled under Feet, and spread every where Disorder, Fear, and Confusion. The Infidels fell in upon them Sword in hand, and made a dreadful Carnage. The imprudent Sebastian was slain, but it is not certain whether he was killed in the Fight, or the Pursuit. Muley Moloc, died also, in the Beginning of the Engagement of a violent Fever, that had before exhausted his Strengh without abating his Courage, and his Rival Muley Mahomet crossing a River, in his Flight, was drowned. The Flower of the Portuguese Nobility accompanied their Monarch in his Death, and a Day so memorably unfortunate, will scarce ever be forgotten by that Nation.

Cardinal Henry, Uncle to Sebastian, succeeded him, being the last Male of his Family. He was upwards of fixty Years of Age, a Priest and very infirm; fo that his Death being an Event very probably not far off, his whole Reign was troubled with the Cabals of the feveral Pretenders to the Crown, amongst whom the two principal were Philip II. of Spain, and Catherine of Portugal, the Wife of Don James, Duke of Braganza. Philip was Son to the Infanta Isabella, who was the eldest Daughter of King Emanuel, and when his being a Foreigner was objected, he denied the Fact, because Portugal and Castile had often been under one Sovereign. The Dutchess of Braganza's Title, however, was much clearer; she was Daughter of Edward, the second Son of the same King Emanuel, and therefore had an undoubted Right to succeed before the Son of Edward's Sifter. Henry reigned but seventeen Months, and Philip willing to decide the Question of the Succession, by a readier Way than a tedious Discussion of his Claim, fent the Duke of Alva, at the Head of a confiderable Army, who foon overran the Kingdom, and reduced it to the Obedience of Philip, meeting with very little Refisfance, fo divided were the Portuguese, except from Anthony, the Grand Prior, natural Son of King John, whom the common People had fet up as King. He

was defeated in two Battles, which fixed the Dominion of Philip, upon a firm Basis. His Son Philip III. and his Grandfon Philip IV. fuccessively became, after him, Tyrants of Portugal: For that poor Kingdom was, by all the three Spamish Monarchs, treated, in every Respect, like a conquered Country, and a Province of Spain. All Generofity of Spirit; all Senfe of Freedom, feemed to be extinct in the harraffed Portuguese; the Nobles were afraid of displaying their Grandeur or Riches, for fear of exciting the Jealoufy and Avarice of the Spanish Ministry; the Gentry immured themselves at their Country Houses, and the People in general groaned under the Load of enormous Taxes. Olivarez, first Minister of Philip IV. removed the Nobility from all Places of Trust, by which, and by impoverishing the Peo-ple, and sending the Youth abroad into foreign Wars, he made no doubt he should secure the Kingdom of Portugal to Spain, fo firmly, that it would never attempt to revolt. But carrying his Oppressions to an intolerable Height, depressed as the Portuguese were, they found Means to free themfelves from their worse than Egyptian Bondage. The Spaniards, very fortunately for their Vassals, were, about this Time, weakened by a long War with France, and the Catalan Revolt. All Eyes were fixed upon Don John, Duke of Braganza, the next in Blood to their former Princes; and though he himself was not over ambitious, and befide was a timid and wary Prince, his Elevation to the Throne, and the Expulsion of the Spaniards were brought about with great Facility, by the Skill and Address of his Friends. It was in the Year 1640, when Margaret of Savoy, Dutchess of Mantua was in Portugal, with the Title of Vice-Queen; but when Vasconcellos, a Porsuguese in the Spanish Interest, and a Creature D 2

of Olivarez, being Secretary of State, ruled, in her Name, with uncontrolled Authority, and made the Yoke of Bondage still more severely felt by his Countrymen, from the unnatural Hand, that inflicted their Miseries: It was in this memorable Year, I fay, that fome new Imposts being laid upon the Inhabitants of Evora, they role in a tumultuous Manner, driven by meer Despair, exclaimed against the Spanish Government, and declared they would die to procure the Throne for their beloved Duke of Braganza. This greatly alarmed the Spanish Ministry, who now began to fee their Error, in fuffering a Prince of his Pretensions to live in the Heart of a Country which had been so lately conquered. Olivarez, therefore, practifed every Art to perfuade and lay him under a Necessity to repair to Madrid, by proposing feveral Advantages and Honours for him, and even remitting Money to bear his Expences, when the cautious Duke, amongst other Excuses, urged, his Inability to take that Journey, in a Manner befitting his Rank, from the Scantiness of his Finances. But before we proceed farther, it may not be amis, from Vertot, to give the Character of this Prince, who feemed defigned by Providence to restore the Blessings of Liberty to his Country. "His Humour," fays he, "was agreeable, and the chief thing he consulted was his Ease. He was a Man rather of found Sense than of quick Wit. He could easily make himfelf Master of any Business to which he applied his Mind; but then he never cared much for the Trouble of it. Don Theodosius, his Father, was of a fiery and passionate Temper, and had infused into his Son's Mind an hereditary Aversion to the Spaniards, who had usurped a Crown that of Right belong'd to him; to swell his Mind with the Ambition of repossessing himself of a Throne,

Throne, which his Ancestors had been unjustly deprived of; and to fill his Soul with all the Courage that would be necessary for the carrying on of fo great a Delign; he imbibed as much of his Father's Sentiments as were confiftent with fo mild and easy a Temper. He contented himfelf with the distant Prospect of a Crown, nor would for an Uncertainty venture the Quiet of his Life, and a Fortune which was already greater than was well confiftent with the Condition of a Subject. Had he been precisely what his Father wished him, he had never been fit for the great Design; for Olivarez had him observed so strictly, that had his easy Manner of living, proceeded from any Thing but natural Inclination, it had certainly been discovered, and the Discovery had proved fatal both to his Life and Fortune. Had he been the most refined Politican, he could never have lived in a manner less capable of giving Suspicion. His Birth, his Riches, his Title to the Crown, were not criminal in themselves, but became fo by the Law of Policy. He therefore chose this Way of Living, prompted as well by Nature as by Reason. It would have been a Crime to be formidable, he must, therefore, take Care not to appear fo. At his Seat, nothing but Hunting and other rural Diversions were thought of. The Brightness of his Parts could not make the Spaniards apprehend any bold Undertaking; but the Solidity of his Understanding made the Portuguese promise themselves the Enjoyment of mild and easy King, provided he could be raised to the Throne."

Olivarez, more and more alarmed at the Duke's repeated Excuses, began, in reality, to think he was consulting Measures detrimental to his Master's Interest; but knowing the Love the Portuguess bore him, would not use Force, to bring

him to Madrid, contenting himself with a politick Scheme which he did not doubt would answer

his Purpose.

The French Fleet had been feen off the Coast of Portugal; he therefore, pretending 'twas necessary to have Troops on Foot to oppose their attempts. fent the Duke a Commission of General, with unlimited Authority over the Towns, Garrifons and Maritime Forces, and in fhort, with an Air of the utmost Confidence, seem'd to have put all Portugal under his Command. This was intended to Intoxicate the Duke, and to lull him asleep. Mean time, he gave private Orders to the Spanish Admiral, that when the Duke should visit any of the Ports, he should put in, as if driven by stress of Weather, invite him on Board, and then fet fail, and bring him directly into Spain. This fine fpun contrivance, however prov'd abortive, by the Shipwreck of part of the Fleet, and the difpersion of the rest, so that they never made the Coast of Portugal. Olivarez not discourag'd, beftow'd new marks of Confidence on him, ordering him to visit all the Fortresses in the Kingdom, and to report the State of them, and remitted him a large Sum to defray the Expences of his Tour. He fent, at the fame Time, orders to the Governors of those Places, that upon any favourable Opportunity they should secure the Duke's Person, and forthwith convey him into Spain. The Duke, from this great Confidence reposed in him, very naturally suspected some Treachery was intended, and therefore wrote Letters full of Acknowledgement to Olivarez; put his Friends into all vacant Places of Truft, employ'd part of the Spanish Money in gaining new Creatures, and never visited any Fort without fuch a crowd of Attendants, as made it impossible for

the Governors to execute their Orders: and, in short. began now to pave the Way for ascending the Throne. He did every thing to Ingratiate himfelf with the People and the Army. Pinto Ribeiro Comptroller of his Houshold, an artful, diligent and watchful Man, and form'd by Nature for great Defigns, became the principal Agent in the now projecting Revolution: He manag'd so cunningly, with all such as were disaffected to the present Government, that, without bringing his Matter's Name in question, and seeming to do and fay every thing as from himfelf, the good Friend of Portugal and the Patriot, he work'd fo upon all Ranks, that he foon brought a fufficient number of able hands into a Conspiracy to raise the Duke to the Throne. Amongst these were the Archbishop of Lisbon, Don Miguel d'Almeida, Don Antonio d'Almeida, Don Lewis his Son, Don Lewis d' Acugna, Mello Lord Ranger, Don George, his Brother, Pedro Mendoza, Don Roderigo de Saa, and many other Noble Personages, who mourn'd over the Calamities of their Country.

Three of these Worthy Portuguese were deputed to offer the Duke the Throne, and they represented to him all the Reasons in favour of their Design, and the facility with which it might be put in Execution. He hefitated but, at length, answered them in a manner neither to lessen or encrease their Hopes. The Deputies, by the Duke's manner of Speech and Behaviour, found he would not engage in their Plot, without a certain prospect of its fucceeding, and that he would only give his confent to the Execution thereof, whenever it should be ripe for it. In this Crisis of Affairs, the Duke consulted his Wife, a Princess of great Spirit, of the Family of Medina Sidonia, whose advice determined him. " She ask'd him," says Vertot, "Whether, in case the Portuguese accepting his

denial

denial of the Crown, should resolve to make themfelves a Republick, he would fide with them, or with the King of Spain? He reply'd, undoubtedly with his Countrymen, for whose Liberty he would willingly venture his Life. And why can you not do for your own fake, answered She, what you would do as a Member of the Commonwealth"? After this She urged his undoubted Right to the Crown; that Portugal was reduced to fo miserable a State by the Castilians, that it was inconfistent with the Honour of a Man of his Quality, to be an idle Looker on; that his Children would reproach, and their Posterity curse his Memory, for neglecting fo fair an Opportunity of restoring them, what was so much in Justice theirs." A fresh Order from Olivarez to the Duke commanding him to Court, to give a verbal Account to the King, of the State of the Ports, Garrisons, &c. flung the Duke intirely into the hands of the Conspirators. After various Plans had been debated between them, and after much Wavering and Irrefolution on the Duke's Side, who was, over and over again, confirmed in their Defigns, by the Dutchess and Pinto, the Conspirators fixed upon Saturday, Dec. 1, 1640. for the important Day when they were to put a Period to the Slavery of their Country. Mustering their Forces, they found they could depend upon 150 Gentlemen (Heads of Families) with their Servants and Tenants, and about 200 fubftantial Citizens, who could bring with them a considerable Number of inferior Workmen.

Mean time Olivarez dispatched still more positive Orders to the Duke of Braganza, to come immediately to Madrid, and he remitted him a Bill upon the royal Treasury for 10,000 Ducats, that he might have no Excuse for a further Delay. This con-

vinced the Duke no Time was to be loft.

Whilft

Whilst every thing was thus prepared, the whole Plot was like to have been discovered, by imparting it to two lukewarm Friends, by D'Almaida (who finding the Nobleman he had made his Confident, irrefolute and likely to betray him, kept him in Sight till the Affair was over) and Don George Mello, who imparting the Affair to a Relation in whose House he lodged, perceived he had (after he left him) ordered his Horses, and was going to mount for Lisbon; upon which he compelled him, with his Sword at his Breast, to desist, and return into the House, and would not lose Sight of him, till he carried him to the general Rendezyous. Many other Occurrences contributed to keep up the Terror and Apprehension of the Conspirators, till the Moment the Plot was to be executed, and were near putting an End to the glorious Defign: So true is what the Poet fays,

O think! what anxious Moments pass between
The Birth of Plots, and their last fatal Periods!
O! 'tis a dreadful Interval of Time!
Fill'd up with Horror all, and hig with Death!
Destruction hangs on ev'ry Word we speak,
On ev'ry Thought, till the concluding Stroke
Determines all, and closes our Design.

Betimes in the Morning, the Conspirators were furnished with Arms, and, what was amazing, amongst such Numbers of People of different Ranks and Stations, not one forfeited his Word; but all were punctual at the Rendezvous. Being arrived near the Palace, when the Clock struck Eight, a Pistol, the appointed Signal, was fired by Pinto. One Party sell immediately upon the German Guard and cut them in Pieces; another defeated and disarmed the Spanish Guard, at a Place before the

Palace, called the Fort. Pinto, with a third Party forced into Vasconcellos's Apartment, and found him hid under a Heap of Papers, in a Press. Don Roderigo de Saa shot him through the Head, feveral others of the Conspirators stabbed him, and then threw him out of the Window, crying, Liberty! liberty! The Tyrant is dead! Long live Don John, King of Portugal! The Mob shouted, and mangled the Body by a thousand indignities, every one being willing to shew his hatred of this instrument of Oppression. The fourth Party feized the Vice-Queen and made her a Prisoner, crying out, Long live Don John, King of Portugal! The rest of the Spaniards in the Palace, also, were all foon fecured, as well as the Sea Officers (who were on Shore) and whose Ships lay in the Harbour. Those who were released from Prison, where they had been confined by the Spanish Ministers, form'd a strong and resolute Body, in behalf of the Conspiracy. They soon forc'd the Vice-Queen, to fend an Order for the delivery of the Citadel, which the pufillanimous Governor immediately obeyed. Afterwards they took the three Spanish Galleons in the Harbour, and, in fine, the Duke of Braganza made his Publick Entry into Lisbon, amidst the joyful acclamations of all Ranks of People, and the whole Kingdom soon after declared in his Favour, driving the Castilians out of their Confines, and proclaiming the Duke of Braganza; fo that in less than a Fortnight, except those in Custody, not a Spaniard was left in the Kingdom.

On Dec. 15, his Majesty was Crowned, and the Grandees and Clergy took the Oath of Alleigance to him. The Portuguese of the Indies, Africa and Brazil, soon followed the example of their Mother Country, and revolted from the Spaniards. And thus this mighty Revolution was

effected, and John IV. seated on the Throne of his Ancestors; and tho' it was near a Year in projecting, and the Secret most of that Time, in the Hands of above 200 Persons, it was never known to the Court of Spain, 'till' twas too late to prevent the Execution of it. King John suppress'd all Plots and Conspiracies form'd against him, and supported himself on the Throne, against all the Power of Spain. He reign'd sixteen Years, being esteemed a good Prince, and an encourager of Learning. He left two Sons behind him, and a Daughter, the Insanta Catherine, afterwards married to Charles II. King of Great Britain.

Alphonso VI. reigned under the guardianship of his Mother, for some Years, by whose wise Councils, the Portuguese were successful against the Spaniards, who, at last, made Peace with them and renounced all Claim to Portugal. Alphonso a Prince of base Manners, took the Reins of Government by Force from the Queen Mother, who, grieved at his Conduct, retired into a Cloister, where she died, deploring that, after contributing to raise the Fortune of her Family, it should be subjected to so unworthy a Representative.

The base Conduct, and repeated disorderly Actions of Alphonso, at length occasioned his being deposed by an affembly of the States, and he was banished to the Islands of Tercera, in 1668. Some time after he was brought back to Portugal and died in the Castle of Cintra, on Dec. 12, 1683. After his Death his Brother Don Pedro, or Peter II. was proclaimed King, having been Regent of the Kingdom, from the Time of his Brother's deposition. He married the Princess of Nemours, of the House of Savoy, who had been his Brother Alphonso's Queen, but had obtained a Divorce on Account of his Impotence and ill Usage. Pedro was a Prince of many Virtues, and

contributed greatly to the Happiness of his People: His Conduct, in general, tended towards preferving Peace at Home, and, when he became a Party in the War kindled on Account of the Spanish Succession, he pursued his own and his People's Interest, and performed his Engagements no further than fuited with their Convenience, and his own Views. He died Dec. 11, 1706, and was fucceeded by his eldest Son Don John V. who purfued the same Measures with his Father. The History of Portugal since the Peace of Utrecht, affords nothing very material, and the Transactions from thence are within the Compass of most People's Knowledge and Remembrance. Since his present most faithful Majesty's Accession, the dreadful Earthquake, in 1755, of the Circumstances of which every one is well acquainted, and the late Conspiracy, which now shakes the interior Peace of the Kingdom with horrid Convulsions, are the principal Matters that have occurred, of the latter of which my Readers will, in the following Pages, have the most authentick Account.

The Portuguese are full of Fire, and naturally rash, even to Desperation; they are bigotted to their Religion, but are much more superstitious than devout, as may be gathered from the preceding Pages. Every thing passes for a Prodigy among them; and Heaven (they think) is never wanting in the most extraordinary Manner, to interest itself in their Favour. The Portuguese Gentlemen dress mostly in Black, and their Breeches are large and full, like Trowfers; otherwise they run much into the French Fashion. The better Sort frequently wear Lace and Embroidery, but, in general, affect Plainness and Gravity in their Cloathing. They are personable Men, and able to endure a great deal of Fatigue. Their Notions of what they call Honour, are carried very high;

high. "Blood, Rank, Title, Preference, all the Circumstances of Pride and Pomp, are resolutely afferted, and obstinately persisted in; (says a judicious Writer) they weigh Honour and Quality by Grains and Scruples, and recede from no Points of Preheminence or Equality, that they have any kind of Pretence of claiming, or adhering to. Nay, they will fuffer any Kind of Inconvenience, even Want, Difgrace and Mifery, rather than publickly give way in Appearances. There happened a very extraordinary Dispute betwixt two Noblemen; one a Count, the other no Titular, but who had ferved the Office of Viceroy in India: Their Equipages meeting in a Street too narrow for them to pass each other, neither of them would fubmit to back, and give the Way; fo they patiently fat, for feveral Hours, in their Carriages, till the Affair was referred to the King, and he had Leifure to decide it; whose Decision was, that they should both back, and take different Ways: By which means their Honours were preferved, and probably one, or both of their Lives. But a still fresher and more unhappy Instance has happened, to exemplify the Effects of that Spirit among them. At a French Ball, where many of the Portuguese Nobility were present, a Dispute arose, while the Company were at Supper, betwixt Don - Noronba, a Son of the Count of Arcos, and Don Antonio de Menezes, in which the former had struck the latter; who, in return, had feized a Bottle, and was going to repay the Injury, by throwing it at his Adverfary's Head; but was unfortunately prevented. Had he done it, his Honour had been recovered; but as he could not, he remains with the indelible Stain of a Blow. Both were immediately laid under Arrest; and, to prevent cool Mischief, the Aggressor was suffered to escape out of the Kingdom ;

Kingdom; where he remains in miserable Indigence, as his Family is too poor to furnish him with the Means for a decent Existence; while the other remains in a State of fo much Infamy at Home, that he cannot go to Court, affift in any publick Act, nor be received in any honourable Company. For till he has caufed the Man who struck him to be murdered, no Nobleman will be feen by him, nor even fit down, or flay in a Room where he finds him. Yet is this dishonoured young Nobleman a Man of Sense and of a worthy Character; but he must, at all Events, commit Murder, or patiently submit to Contempt. After the late dreadful Earthquake, the starving Exile, wrote to Don Antonio, telling him, that he embraced that Time of general Distress and Compassion to implore a Reconciliation, and offering to make any Satisfaction for the Injury he had done him. But the offended's Relations obliged him to fign a Letter, they took upon themselves to write, in answer, which was fuch an one as cut off all Hopes of Accommodation for ever."

Thus it appears, the Portuguese are very tenacious of Resentment, and obstinate Pursuers of Revenge; nor do the best Persons amongst them (so mistaken are their Notions of Honour) scruple to employ Russians, or to give the private Stab, if they find no readier Way of repaying an Injury, real or imaginary, or think they hazard too much in open Attempts to right their injured Reputation.

The Ladies, are generally, charitable, modest and generous, their Complexion inclines to the Olive; they have delicate Features, Black and shining Hair, and sparkling Eyes: Those who have conversed with them, also report that they have a flowing Expression and ready Wit. They paint

Paint very much, wear Hoops and Gowns, one over another, of rich Stuff trimmed with Gold and Silver Lace; but the uppermost of coarse, black Stuff, trailing upon the Ground. Their Shoes are of black Spanish Leather, strait and without Heels: When abroad they have Pattens, which are a kind of Silk Sandals, fastened to Gold Rings or Plates, by which they are raifed fix or feven Inches from the Ground, and walk very awkwardly. In the House they wear neither Hoops nor Pattens; their Stays are high before and shallow behind, reaching fcarce half way up their Backs. Their Hands and Feet are small, and well proportioned. Persons of Quality wear very fine Linen; but as it is very dear, poor People wear none, which they omit from Pride, refolving to go without, rather than wear that which is coarse. They wear great quantities of Jewels; cross the top of their Stays they have a fort of Breast Plate of Diamonds, whence hangs a Chain of Pearl, or feveral knots of Diamonds. They have, likewise, Bracelets, Rings and Pendants in abundance; but wear no Necklaces; their whole Persons are covered with Agnus Dei's, and other little Images, and their Hair is variously decorated with precious Stones. They fometimes wear Ribbons and Feathers, also, but have no other Head Drefs. When they go abroad they throw a Veil over them.

The Furniture of their Houses is generally very rich, which, with their Apartments, they change according to the Seasons of the Year. They spread fine Mats on the Floors, and cover the lower Part of the Walls with the same, above which are Pictures and Looking Glasses. Round the Ladies Apartments are Silk and Velvet Cushions, which they sit upon cross-legged. The Gentlemen, in theirs, have Chairs. Between each,

are placed, fine Tables and Cabinets, and, at proper Diffances, Silver Boxes with Orange and Jeffamine Trees. They have Straw-work Frames at the Windows, to keep out the fcorching Rays of the Sun. In Winter, their Beds and Hangings are Velvet, with Gold or Silver Lace. In Summer, their Curtains are coloured Gaufe. They use upper Floors in Winter, and the ground Floors in Summer. Their culinary Veffels are all of Silver or earthen Ware, and the Grandees have immense Quantities of Silver Plate in their Houses. With all this Wealth and glittering Appearance, the Nobility, in general, are very neceffitous. They fpend their Lives in the Capital, or its Neighbourhood, and never visit their Estates, unless they are in Disgrace, leaving every thing to their Stewards, and never inspecting their Accompts. Their Tradesmen set down their own Prices for every thing, being fure their Bills will not be strictly examined, and the Servants who are at board Wages, carry off the Overplus of Eatables. They think it beneath them to beat down the Price of Goods, or even to take Change of a Piece of Gold, of the Shopkeeper. The Tradesmen give them fix or eight Years Credit, and, in Return, charge double what the Goods might be bought at for ready Money. Indeed, they feldom lofe their Debts in the long Run; for their noble Customers will, without Difficulty, affign over Part of their Rents, for the Payment of their Creditors. They have great Numbers of Servants, whose Wages are very low, and, as they lay it mostly out in Cloaths, they are very sharp set, and feed usually at Cooks Shops, on Onions, Peas, Beans, and other Pulse. They have, in their Service many Dwarfs, also, with Moorish and Turkish Slaves, of both Sexes. The very Beggars in Portugal, rather demand, than ask Charity, and as they

they almost all pretend to be the Descendants of old Christians, or of the antient Nobility, you must dismiss them politely if you give them nothing. The Portuguese are, in general, very sober and abstemious; but the common People are proud, yet abject; insolent and treacherous. The usual Diversions are Bull Feasts, Night Rambles, Serenades, Plays, Visits and Processions. They use Calashes and Coaches, in common, drawn by Mules, and travel very much by Water. In travelling, they use Litters and Mules, and for Parade, Shew, or a short Tour, their well-made, sprightly Horses are excellent. Strangers who travel with a Foot-Guide, cannot go far in a Day.

Portugal has produced some good Historians, amongst whom the elegant Osforius, claims a chief mention, and the immortal Camouens has prov'd, that their Language may be rendered very har-

monious, in his famous Poem, The Lufiada.

These sew strictures will give my Reader an Idea of the Genius and Manners of the Portuguese, and will considerably elucidate the following Pages.

Before we proceed to the Account of the late horrid Conspiracy, it will not be improper to see what the King of *Portugal* says of it himself, in

his Edict.

Abstract of the Edict or Decree, of his Most Faithful Majesty, the King of Portugal.

After the Preamble it sets forth, "Their (the Conspirators) first contrivance was, to have it suggested and spread about Clandestinely and Maliciously (in a mysterious Manner, in order to impose on the sincerity and more worthy Dispositions, upon which they hoped to make Impressions by such kinds of Insinuations) that my Royal Life could not possibly be of long duration, and even affecting to limit it to the Month of September then approaching. After the Conspirators had endeavoured to operate on the Publick mind by such malignant Predic-

Predictions, they advanced to that greater temerity which was demonstrated by the horrid infalt committed on the third Day of the above mentioned Month of September, last past, at eleven of the Clock at Night, on my going out of the Gate of the House called * The House in the Mid-way, in order to pass by the small Field to this Palace of my Residence, to my repole: Having posted three of the said Conspirators mounted on Horse-back near the faid Gate, concealed by the Houses adjoining, who discharged, with infamous and execrable Fury on the Body of the Equipage I was in, three Blunderbuffes charged with large Shot, of which one miffed Fire, but the other two went off, and were fufficient not only to make two large holes in the back of the Equipage, but also, besides, to make such Havock of the whole faid back of the Equipage, as left human Judgment without the Power of comprehending, on beholding it, how it could bepossible that my Royal Person should be faved. thut up in so narrow a compals, and amidst so entire a Devastation, with no greater hurt than those dangerous Wounds that I there received, had not my Royal Life been positively preferved by the visible Wonder working Hand of Omnipotence, amidst the destruction that was made by that most horrible In-And whereas there are barbaroufly and facrilegiously offended by it, all the Foundations, the most facred, of Rights, divine, natural, civil and national, to the fo great offence of Religion and Humanity, retribution for the Infult is made fo much the more Indispensible, so much the greater and more grating the Scandal is which results from it to the Portuguese Fidelity; whose laudable sentiments of Honour, of Love, and of Gratitude to my Royal Person, I shall never be able to repay without giving them the moral Certainty that they will see so execrable a Conspiracy torn up by its poisonous Roots; and that among my faithful Vaffals, there exists no one of those horrid Monsters that contrived to commit such abominable Crimes. I therefore fignify that all Persons who discover (in such a Manner, that they verify what they declare,) which or whatever of the Parties, of that infamous Combination, shall, if they are of the Plebean Orders, be by me directly made Noble, and if they are of higher Ranks, they shall be made more Noble; and have Competent Stipends allowed them: If they are already Noblemen by establishment, I will Honour them with the Titles of Viscounts and Earls, in conformity to the Graduation that they are now in; and if they are Titulars, I will advance them to Higher ones.

This is a House of the King's, which stands half way between two of his Country Palaces at Below. Those Palaces are about a Mile distant from one another. That which he now lives in, is built of Wood fince the Earthquake, and situated a little higher than the uppermost of the others,

ones, than those that they now enjoy. Besides which favours I will confer on such Discoverers, others of greater Utility, that is, Pecuniary ones; fuch as Offices of Justice, of the Revenue, of the Estates of the Crown, and of the Military Orders : Referving to my Royal Determination, the regulating thereof agreeable to the Quality, and the importance of the Service of every respective Discoverer; And I likewise declare, that whofoever of the Conspirators shall make Discovery of their Accomplices, provided they were not themselves the Chiefs and Contrivers of the Mischief, shall be immediately pardoned. To the Officers of Justice, who shall apprehend any of the Parties concerned in this Crime, I will give Honours and Rewards in proportion to the Services that in this Bufiness they do me, and befides what is expressed above in Relation to Difcoverers. And that no one may be induced to conceal from Ignorance fuch pernicious Offenders, from a false Opinion that Discoverers become infamous, I require of all my People to observe this, that what is vulgar Custom with regard to Matters of the Revenue, in Opinion, cannot take Place in Cases of Conspiracy against a Sovereign Prince, and in the highest Treason: But much to the contrary; for Silence in such Cafes, incurrs the fame Penalties, and the fame Infamy to which the Principals are condemned of fuch pernicious Offences: Infomuch, that Fathers are not excused for concealing their Sons; nor, on the contrary, Sons for concealing their Fathers. Because superior to all other Obligations, is that of preserving your King, and your Country: And Kings Act as commoa Fathers, when they punish Crimes that are so atrocious and so prejudical to the Public. And whereas so horrible a Case makes it indispensibly necessary to use all possible Diligence in the imprisoning of Offenders, I am pleased to make general all the Jurisdictions of the Magistracy of these Kingdoms, without excepting any of my own Lands, or those of any Grants, howfoever privileged they may be, in fuch a Manner that all may be entered without waiting for any new Order from the Ministers of the Crown, or of the said Grants, for any thing regarding the feizure of the Offenders in this Crime : Who I Order may be Apprehended, by any Persons who shall get Notice or be in pursuit of them, seizing them in whatever Place they can find them, on Condition, however, that as foon as they have taken them Prisoners, they immediately carry them via rella to the Magistrate nearest Resident, for him to convey them to this City with the utmost Security. Doctor Pedro Gonsalves Cordeiro Pereira, of my Council, Judge of the Palace, Deputy of the board of Conscience and Orders, and Chancellor of the Court of Supplication, in which he ferves as Regidor, is whom I have named Judge of Inconfidence to execute as fuch, all that is necessary: And who is to cause, F 2

this Decree, as an Edict, to be posted up in all Public Places of the City of Liston and its Districts; and to transmit it, under his Name, to all other Cities and Towns of these Kingdoms. To which end I order, that all Copies signed by him have the same Credit as this proper Original, notwithstanding any I aws, Dispositions or Customs to the contrary, not even those that require an especial Derogation."

Belem, the Ninth of December, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Eight.

Signed,

KING.

The Noble Persons already Executed for the late Conspiracy were the following.

"Don Joseph Mascarenhas and Lencastre (or Lancaster) Duke of Aveiro, Marquis of Terres Novas and of Gouvea, and Earl of Santa Cruz hereditary Lord Steward of the King's Houshold, which is the highest Office in the Palace, and President of the Palace-Court, or last Tribunal of appeal in the Kingdom, which is the second State Officer of the Realm; he was he related himself to the Tavoras, and married to a Sister of the Eldest Marquis of that Title. He was in the 51st Year of his Age; of the lowest middle Size, well made in his Perfon, of an agreeable Countenance and lively Disposition.

Francisco de Assiz and Tavora, (this Family being above taking the Title of Don) Marquis of Tavora and Earl of Saint John and of Alvor, General of Horse, &c. This Nobleman was himself the Eldest Branch of the Alver Family, the third Noble House of the Tavoras; and by Marrying to his Kinswoman, the Heires of the Marquisate, became in her Right, Earl of Saint John and Marquis of Tavora. The Family of Tavoras is the most illustrious of the Kingdom, as well for the Purity as Antiquity of their Descent; deriving their Origin from the Kings of Leon, and having ever preserved their Dignity, by disdaining to make any other than the most noble Alliances; infomuch that it has of late been the Practice of the chief Branches of this Family to marry only among one another. They were themselves the Conquerors from the Moors, of the Lands they posses, and on which there is a Town, a River and an ancient Castle of their Name; and they even pretend to be Lords of Tawora by the Grace of God. The Marquis was in the 56th Year of his Age, of the highest middle Stature; a genteel Person, comely Countenance and grave Deportment.

Donna Leoner de Tavora, Marchioness of Tavora, in her own Right, and Wife of the above mentioned Marquis, was

in the 59th Year of her Age: She was of the lower middle Size and thin, extremely genteel, and in her Youth had been very beautiful. In the duties of Life she appeared highly amiable, being an extreme good Mother, and demonstrated herself as good a Wife by accompanying her Husband to India at the Age of 50, when he was appointed Vice-roy of the Portuguese Dominions in that Country; of which undertaking, before hers, there had been but a single Example. Her Deportment in general was courteous and affable, and she was allowed to be a Lady of good Understanding.

Luis Bernardo de Tavora, youngest Marquis of that Title, was the eldest Son of the above-mentioned Couple, and in the 36th Year of his Age. He was married, with a Dispensation obtained for that purpose from the Pope, to his Father's youngest Sister Donna Therefa de Tawora, and Lorena (or Lorain) who was twenty Days elder than himself. This is the Lady who is said to be in the Nunnery of Santos, without our having been Informed, by Authority, that the was fent thither a Prisoner by Order of the Court. She is a middle fized Lady, comely in her Person, and extremely elegant in her Deportment. The Marquis, her Husband, was a little Man and thin, well enough made, but not of a pleafing Afpect, though with a confiderable resemblance of his Mother. He was neither defici-ent in Wit or Humour, but not amiable in his Conduct, nor extremely correct in his Morals. This couple have a Daughter living, in the twelfth Year of her Age, Donna Joanna de Tavora who is exceeding beautiful. But who, without being an accomplice in their Guilt, is, by the Sentence on her Father, Grandfather and Grandmother, deprived of the very Name, of which she would otherwise have become Chief; and, with a severity that must astonish, is decreed infamous.

Joseph Maria de Tavora, second and youngest Son of the eldest Marquis and Marchioness of Tavora, in the Twenty-third Year of his Age; of a middle Size, most beautiful Face, genteel Person, agreeable Deportment and amiable Disposition. This young Nobleman, had he lived, would probably have been married to his Neice, the Heiress of the Family; and their Offspring enjoyed the Marquisate of Tavora. There are said to have happened Circumstances of Fortitude and Resolution

in his Profecution that do him Honour.

Don Jeronimo de Attaide, Earl of Attougia, one of the oldest, if not the most ancient Tiele of the Kingdom. This Nobleman was in the 38th Year of his Age, related himself to the Tavoras, and married to the eldest Daughter of the eldest Marquis and Marchioness of Tavora; and Sister to the young Marquis and Joseph Maria of that Name. He was of middle Stature, clumly in his Make, of a heavy Aspect, and ungraceful Demeanour, and of slow Parts, but in his general Conduct an inosfensive Man.

The other Persons under Confinement, are,

" Don John de Almeida, Portugal; Marquis of Alorno, and Earl of Affumar, in the 33d Year of his Age: Married to Donna Leonor de Tawora, second Daughter to the elder Marquis and Marchioness of Tawora, perhaps one of the most heautiful Women in the World: And, indeed, it must be allowed, that the whole Families of Tawora and Alvor, the younger Marquis excepted, were very handsome. This Nobleman is personal and genteel, has travelled, is studious, and has one of the best Capacities of any of the Nobility of the Kingdom. When his Marriage was contracted, he paid Visits to the English Envoy and Conful at Lisbon, and told them he came to see them as an Englishman, being going to marry a Tawora, that Family being of all others the most attached to our Nation. The two Marquisses of that Name were dancing among the People of our Factory, almost the whole Night, preceding the Day on which they were apprehended: And it is imagined, by some, that those Persons who have shewn themselves their greatest Enemies, are altogether as remarkably fuch to us,

Nuno Gaspar de Tawera, Brother to the elder Marquis, Colonel of a Regiment of Infantry, and married to the Heiress of a noble Family of the Name of Sylveria: he is in the 55th

Year of his Age.

Manoel, Rafael de Tavora, Brother to the elder Marquis was married to the Heiress of the House of Villanova, but is, now a Widower, and Father to the young Earl of that Title. He is in the 44th Year of his Age, a Colonel of Horse, and Gentleman of the Bedchamber to the Infant Don Pedro, Brother to the King.

John Baptista de Tavora, Brother to the elder Marquis of Tavora; a Colonel of Horse, and Knight of Malta, 42 Years of Age on the Day preceding that in which so many of his

Relations were executed.

Joseph Maria de Tavora, Brother to the elder Marquis of Tavora, a Dignitary of the Patriarchal Church at Liston: He is in the 33d Year of his Age.

Don Mancel de Souza, a Nobleman, who was till lately, one of the three Captains of the Royal Guard; he is married to a

Princess of the House of Holstein-beck.

Don Mannel de Affiz Mascarenhas, Earl of Obidas and Palma, Hereditary High Bailiff of the Kingdom, Brigadier General of Horse, and Gentleman of the Bed-chamber to the King; in the 60th Year of his Age. This Nobleman is chief of the second House of Mascarenhas, of which Name there are more Titulars.

Titulars in that Kingdom, than of any other: And he is in near Alliance with the Houses of Alegrete, Marialva, and others

of the first Distinction.

Don Guido Augusta da Camara and Ataide, Farl of Ribeira-Grande, in the 41st Year of his Age. He is himself related to the Tavoras by the Mother's Side, and being married to his Neice, the Heiress of the Camara Family, is become more strongly connected with them; she being Daughter to a Sister of the elder Marquis of Tavora, the Dutchess of Alveiro, the young Marchioness of Tavora, and all the Tavoras that continue yet imprisoned. This Nobleman, and the Earl of Obidos, Authority has told us, are imagined not to have been concerned in the Conspiracy, but imprisoned only for having talked too freely.

To this Lift of Prisoners, may be added, for a Certainty. Don Martinho Mascarenhas and Lencastre, Marquis of Gouvea and Earl of Santa Cruz, only Son and Heir of the Duke of Aveiro. He is in the 19th Year of his Age; and a Marriage for him has been contracted with the young Duke of Cadoval's eldeft Sifter, Donna Margarida Caetana de Lorena, a near Relation to his Mother, and to the whole Tawora Family. But this Marriage, if he should escape the Danger he

is at present in, is now not likely to take Place.

Donna Leonor Thomasia de * Tavora, Dutchess of Aveiro. Sifter to the elder Marquis and to the younger Marchionels of Tavora in the 40th Year of her Age. This Lady has been very beautiful, and is still an exceeding fine Woman; her

two Daughters are confined in the Convent with her.

Donna Mariana Bernarda de Tavora, Countels of Attouguia, and Daughter to the elder Marquis and Marchione's of Tavora; in the 27th Year of her Age; a very beautiful Lady. She has three Children, which were carried into Confinement at a Convent with her.

Donna Leonor de Tawora, Marchioness of Alorno, and Daughter to the elder Marquis and Marchioness of Tavora; in the 30th Year of her Age. She is, perhaps, one of the most beautiful Women in the World. She has three Children, which were carried with her to the Convent in which she is confined.

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^{*} Ladies in Partugal do not take upon them the Family Names of their Husbands at Marriage as with us; all Women there continuing through Life with those by which they were registered at their Baptifm.

As a due deference should be paid to the Accounts of any extraordinary Transaction published by the Government, the Editor thinks it not improper to add the foregoing Relation published in the London Gazette, with which he closes his necessary Introduction.

" Lifbon, Jan. 20. On the first Instant, the Count de Obidos, and the Count de Ribeira-grande, were fent to the Castle of St. Julians, and Guards placed at the Doors of their respective dwelling Houses; but, in general, it is thought that these two Gentlemen are not implicated in the Conspiracy, but rather that they may have been too free of Speech. On Thursday the 4th Inftant the Dutcheis of Aveiro, the Countels of Accuguia, and the Marchioness of Alorna, and their Children, were sent to different Nunneries. On Friday the 11th Inftant, eight Jesuits were taken into Custody. A Council was appointed by the King, for the Trial of the Prisoners, composed of the three Secretaries of State, the Person acting as Chief Justice in the room of the Duke of Alofoens, who is still indisposed, and five other Judges, the Sollicitor for the Crown being prefent. The whose Process was closed on Tuesday the oth Instant. The Marchioness of Tavora, Wife to the General of Horse, was brought, on Wednesday the toth, from the Convent das Grillas, to the Place where the other Criminals were confined: This Lady was one of the chief Instruments in this Conspiracy.

Saturday the 13th Inflant, being the Day appointed for the Execution, a Scaffold had been built in the Square, opposite to the House where the Prisoners were confined, and eight Wheels fixed upon it. On one Corner of the Scaffolding was placed Antonio Alwares Ferreira, and on the other corner, the Effigy of Joseph Policarpio de Azevedo, who is fill missing; these being the two Persons that fired at the back of the King's Equipage. About half an Hour after Eight in the Morning, the Execution began. The Criminals were brought out one by one, each under a strong Guard. The Marchioness of Tawere was the first that was brought upon the Scaffold, where she was beheaded at one Stroke. Her Body was afterwards placed upon the Floor of the Scaffolding, and covered with a Linnen Cloth. Young Joseph Maria of Tawora, the young Marquis of Tavara, the Count of Attouguia, and three Servants of the Duke of Aveiro, were first strangled at a Stake, and afterwards their Limbs broken with an Iron Instrument; the Marquis of Tavora, General of Horse, and the Duke of Aveiro, had their Limbs broken alive. The Duke, for greater Igno(49)

Ignominy, was brought bare-headed to the Place of Execution. The Body and Limbs of each of the Criminals, after they were executed, were thrown upon a Wheel, and covered with a Linnen Cloth. But when Antonio Alwarez Ferreira was brought to the Stake, whose Sentence was to be burnt alive, the other Bodies were exposed to his view; the Combustible Matter, which had been laid under the Scaffolding, was set on Fire, the whole Machine, with the Bodies, were consumed to Ashes, and thrown into the Sea."

A Summary of the Process and Sentence has been printed, the most remarkable Passages of which are as follows.

"That the old Marchioness of Tavora, the Duke of Aveiro, and the Jesuits were the principal Infligators and Actors in this Conspiracy; That the Marchioness seduced her Husband and the other Relations: That there were feveral Conferences held at the Jesuits Colleges, called Santo Antao and St. Roque, at the Marquis of Tavora's and at the Duke's: That the Union of these Noblemen with the Jesuits, was fince the Time that the King dismissed those of that Order from the Palace: That all the Male Criminals, now executed, were in the Field on the 3d of September in different Parties, waiting for the King: That the Duke of Aveiro was with the two Men, who shot at the King's Equipage, and was the Person that first presented his Piece to the Postilion, which missed Fire: That forty Moidores were collected among these Noblemen and given to these two Men: The Duke's Hatred to the Person of the King is set in a ftrong Light; and the Motives alledged in this Paper, for this wicked Project, are, the Duke's being disappointed in marrying his Son to a Sifter of the Duke of Cadavial, who is a Minor; the King having thought proper, that this Match should be put off, till the Duke of Cadaval should be married and have an Heir. Another Motive of Disgust was, the Duke's being disappointed in a Law Suit for some Commanderies, which the late Duke of Aweiro possessed. That the Marchiones's great Cause of Resentment was, that her Husband was not made a Duke, when he came from the East Indies, which he had often desired, but could never obtain, because he had carried the Reward of the Service he was going upon, with him, it being always customary for the King to pass particular Grants to the Viceroy, upon his being appointed, and before he fets out upon his Voyage. The Estates of these Noblemen are all conficated to the Crown, the Dwelling-Houses to be razed to the Ground, and the Name of Tavora never to be used by any Person whatsoever; this Family being the principal Branch of that Name. The Name of Mascarenhas, which was the Duke of Aveiro's is spared, because his Family is a younger Branch of the Families of that Name.

A Reward of 10,000 Crowns is offered to whoever shall ap-

prehend the Person of Joseph Policarpio de Azewedo.

LETTER

FROM

His Excellency Don ******* e *****, at L I S B O N,

To His Excellency the **** of *****, Envoy from ******, to the Court of Great-Britain.

Translated from the Original Portuguese, for the Information of the Publick.

My Lord,

Lisbon, Jan. 30, 1759.

YOU will readily excuse my not answering your kind Letter before this Time; you will make all the allowances proper, for one in my Station, who, for three Months paft, has liv'd in the utmost Hurry, Anxiety, and even in the most imminent Danger: Nor could any thing have supported my Spirits under the excessive Trouble of Mind, and Fatigue of Body, I have gone through; but my Affection and Allegiance to the best of Princes, and my supreme Regard for the good of the Community of which Providence has graciously made me a Member. thank the almighty Ruler of the Universe, I have now some ceffation from my perpetual Attention of Mind; for the' the Fydra is not entirely crushed; yet we have fo got the better of him, as to deal with him, as our own Time and Opportunity Suits.

I am obliged to your Lordship, for waiting for an Account of our fad Convulsions from me: Indeed, I am, unfortunately, the only Person that can truly fatifsy your Enquiries, but when you, remembering our former Friendship, dispatched Fose ***** to Lisbon, I was not prepared with Circumstances sufficient to authenticate the Suspicions you entertained * of *****, which we then both of us imagined, would involve him in the Miseries that have since ensued. I believe, I have been near a Fortnight now, in bringing my Account to the Perfection you fee it in, for as I can only, of all my Secretaries, confide a private Correspondence to **** *****, whom you well remember, he could not be spared from his Office, fo much as I needed him to be my Amanuenfis upon this Occasion. Your **** Master, and indeed, your whole Nation have done every thing that was requested of them, by his Most Faithful Majesty, in regard to ***** +, and the speedy Answer our Expectations met with, I ascribe to your friendly Intervention. I cannot but approve the Sorrow you express for the House of Tavora; for though ftern and rigid Justice should not give Way to a criminal Tenderness; as private Perfons, Humanity obliges us to feel for the Miffortunes of our Fellow Creatures; and now that the Demands of Justice are fatisfied, I can weep myself at a Punishment, which, nevertheless, was just and equitable, and was a Sacrifice to which the whole Portuguese Nation had so undoubted a

* This, I have Authority to fay, did not relate to the Con-

spiracy, directly.

[†] Perhaps, the Matters here hinted at, did not relate to the Conspiracy; but as I am honoured with Leave to publish this Letter, I would not suppress a single Paragraph, at the same time, pretending to know no more, than is plain to every body else.

Claim. I am obliged to you, for the Advice you have given me; but you will allow, that, it is my Duty to suppress my private Friendships, when they shall appear to be incompatible with my Station, and with that Duty I owe to the best of Mafters, and to the whole Kingdom. I shall take the Pains to be very methodical in the enfuing Narration; I owe fo much to my unbated Affection for you as a Friend, and to my own Character, and the Reputation of all those who were concerned in the Detection of this dreadful Plot. I do not restrain you from imparting to the Nation you refide with, the Substance, nay the Whole of what I write: 'Tis but just the World should be informed of our Motives to what we have done, and as far as my Obligations to Silence will permit, it shall be fatisfied. I shall then give you, 1. The Nature and Rife of the late Conspiracy. 2 The horrid Affassination. 3. The Discovery of the Plot, and the apprehending of the Conspirators; and, 4. The judicial Proceedings upon, and the Execution of those unnatural and abandoned Miscreants, who have forfeited all Title to Pity or Compassion.

The whole World, I make no doubt, will stand aghast at so horrid, so atrocious an Attempt upon the Life of my Sovereign; a Prince merciful and clement, whose Annals have been stained by no unrighteous, illegal or sanguinary Measures; who is, at once, the Just the Gracious King, and the tender Father of his People: They will be surprized that, in a Nation so samed for Fidelity to their Princes, so attached to Principles of Honour*, so generous, so brave, any such Wretches should Exist, who, blind to all the Duties, they

It must be remembered that a Portuguese here speaks of his own Countrymen.

owe to their Country, nay to themselves, should endeavour to commit fo vile a Parricide, and to destroy thro' the Sides of his Most Sacred Majesty, the Interest, Safety and Happiness of the Common-wealth. Will they not, then, still more mourn over the Scandal our most Holy Religion will incurr, from the Proceedings of fome of her Ministers, from the iniquitous, abominable and hellish Contrivances of a Body of Men, who have been hitherto confidered as the Bulwarks of the Catholick, and Apostolick Church. How will all fincere Members of our Communion be aftonished when they are convinced that there are Brethren, of a Society which bears the appellation of the Son of God, and who for the remarkable holiness of their Lives have been ever chosen to be the Repositories of the Consciences of our Kings? How, my Lord, I fay, will they be aftonished, when they find there are fuch Instances, amongst these Fathers, of Worldly Pride, cunning and deceiving Policy, unbounded Rapaciousness, Fraud, Rebellion and Treason *? Alas! will not the Hereticks revile our most Holy Faith, which fuffers, and must fuffer so much from the Practices of these, her Ministers and Defenders? I fympathize with your Lordship, in the Pain you will undergo, at the Taunts, the profane Jests that your Ears will be subject to, from the Mouths of the People you are amongst. They, who have fo unbounded a licentiousness of Speech, who dare to burlesque their Ministers of State, and even the Religion of their Country+, what will not their wanton Conceits fay and publish, upon

^{*} But this there was long ago Proofs enough of, if blind Ignorance had not rejected them. Their Behaviour in China, condemn'd even by their own Pontiffs, is a remarkable Instance of the Temper and Maxims of the Society of Jesus.

† I fear this is too just a Resection, of some individuals.

this Occasion, to the Reproach and Scandal of the true Faith. I shudder when I think of it! Tis true all Protestant Countries seem to have been long convinc'd of the felf Interested and pernicious Maxims of this Society, which, indeed, are now but too apparent to the Dupes they have so long deceived. They are really the Wretches, and worse than the Wretches, the Hereticks have made them, and deserve to be banish'd out of

every Christian Country *.

You remember, my Lord, and all Europe knows that these wiley Fathers, under pretence of their Zeal for Religion and of their Devotion to the Holy See, have, in Fact, established themselves upon fuch a Basis that they may be said to be a Government within themselves, independent of all the Powers of the World, and yet cajoling every Monarch and every Government, where they are permited to refide, for their own Ends and Purpofes. Sorry am I that I must say this of a Society, who had they been worthy Disciples of the great Loyola would have adhered more to that meekness dictated by the Gospel+, and not fet themselves up as the Disposers of human Affairs, and the Arbiters of Right and Wrong, as they have constantly endeavoured to do. These unworthy Fathers had accumulated fuch Wealth, by their following all Sorts of Merchandize, by being Brokers, Factors and Bankers, in all parts of the World, and by the Royal and Private Munificence towards them, that they, Years ago, entertained a Project of rendering themselves Independent, and providing an Afylum in any Misfortune, which their Ambition, or their Avarice might, in future, fubject them to. They were enabled to put almost any Scheme in Execution.

* A very fair Confession!

⁺ Where was the meekness of St. Ignatius Loyola display'd?

by their Influence in this Kingdom. They were the Royal Penitentiaries; they kept the Consciences of the principal Nobility and Gentry, and they educated our Children, by which their fway was too unbounded to meet with any obstacle to oppose them in their darling Project? This Credit they were in, and the excessive Piety of his late Majefty, * give them the Opportunity of establishing a kind of Commonwealth, amongst the Indians of our Settlements in South America; in Uraguay, Maranbao and amongst the Spanish Guaranies where they exercifed a despotick Sway. This was fo well concealed that, till the late Treaty of Exchange, between our Court and that of Spain, it was never imagined, even by the Ministry, that they had acquired fuch an Influence over the Natives of those extensive Tracks of Country. It was only supposed that, under pretence of propagating the Gospel, and civilizing and rendering the Indians subservient to Government, they had extended their Missions, and had actually, by their pious Care, brought them under an excellent Difcipline: But no fooner were the Regulations going to be put in Execution by the two Courts, than they spirited up their Vassels and Slaves, as they arrogantly stiled them, to an open Opposition, and Rebellion against their Sovereigns, and, as your Lordship may not have heard all the Allegations that have been prov'd against them, I will fummarily give you an Account of their Vile behaviour. It was in the Year 1750, and in the Month of February, that we had undoubted Intelligence that the Treaty of Exchange could not be executed, without using Force with the Natives, who were entirely poison'd by the Holy

^{*} He sent to Rome alone, in his Reign, 94 Millions of Crusadoes, which excessive benevolence to his Holiness, his present Majesty put a Stop to.

Fathers, against what the two Courts had agreed upon: Tho' indeed their preceding Behaviour, both at our Court and the Court of Spain, was enough, one would imagine, to open our Eyes, as I must, without paying too great a Complement to my own Sagacity, protest it did mine: For they, from the first Minute they got Intelligence of the Treaty, caballed against it, in a very extraordinary Manner, and ventured, even to the Face of Majesty, to represent the Stipulations thereof, between Spain and us, as impracticable, abfurd, and even never to be executed, and did all they could, by their Emissaries to get it annulled. When they found all this ineffectual, they were fo infolent as to employ every Engine to fet the two Courts at variance, knowing that their pernicious Projects would be exposed to all the World, if the Treaty was carried into Execution. All this failing, thro' the Confidence the two Courts had in each other, and the Troops of both Nations being arrived in the Neighbourhood of the Line of Separation, all these Fathers had labour'd fo artfully to conceal was discovered, and their Transactions on the Rivers Paraguay and Uraguay; and on the Black River, and the River Madura, were laid open. And you will tremble, my Lord, at what I am going to impart to you, which I shall do from the Relation published by Authority at Liston, which I was furprized when you informed me you had not feen. In the Woods, near the two Rivers Uraguay and Paraguay, they had erected a powerful Republick, and had collected and fettled 100,000 Souls upon the Banks of those Rivers. These Indians were poor and wretched, being treated by the Jesuits in every Respect like Slaves, whilst theythemselves rioted in Plenty and amassed Riches continually, by their Labour, and the Produce of the Territory. All this

this Power they had acquired from the fanctified pretence of Tenderness for, and aiming at the Conversion of their Souls; and the following were the plaufible and artful Regulations, the Basis of their Usurpation. 1. To suffer no Bishops, Governors, or other Ministers, ecclesiaftical or fecular to fet Foot on their Territories, extending these prohibitions even to private Persons, Natives of Spain, fearful they should discover the State of the Country, which it was their aim to keep an impenetrable Secret. None were admitted to the Knowledge of the Government and Interests of their Republick, but such Priests of their own Order as they imagined might help to fupport their bold Enterprize. 2. They prohibited the Use of the Spanish Language within their Republick; the Guarani Language was alone permitted, in order to render all Correspondence between the Spaniards and Indians impossible, and to deprive the former of any Knowledge of what pass'd in those unhappy Countries. 3. They Catechifed the Indians and thereby imprinted upon their Minds a blind and unlimited Obedience to all the Orders of their Missionaries however fevere and Intolerable, by which they have kept this simple People for such a number of Years, in the darkest Ignorance and most abject Slavery. Being ignorant of any Power in the Universe superior to the Jesuit Fathers, they believed they were despotick Masters of their Souls and Bodies: Ignorant of any King they were obliged to obey, they knew nothing of a free and reasonable Subjection; but they held it as a certain and infallible Maxim, that the whole World was in Bondage, and therefore it behoved them to Obey, without Hesitation, whatever the Fathers commanded.

They

They established, by these Means, amongst these poor Indians, Maxims repugnant to civil Society, as well as to christian Charity. They made them believe, that all the white Men, not of the Clergy, were People without Religion, and without Law, who worshipped no other God but Gold, who were poffeffed with the Devil, and Enemies not only to the Indians, but also to the holy Images they worship; so that if these white Men should ever enter their Territories. they would deftroy all with Fire and Sword; that they would begin, by destroying the Altars, and afterwards, would put their Wives and Children to Death. From these Notions, thus artfully inculcated, the Indians thought it their indispensible Duty to bear an implacable Hatred to the white Seculars, to fearch for them industriously, in order to kill them, and put them to Death without Mercy, wherever they could meet with them, always taking Care to cut off their Heads to prevent their coming to Life again; the Jesuits making them believe, that otherwise they would rife again by magick Art. At the fame time they instructed them in the Use of Arms, introduced Artillery amongst them, and Engineers, disguised in the Habit of Priefts, in order to form Camps, and fortify difficult Passes, as is performed in Europe. In confequence of which, they kindled and supported a War against the two Crowns. In the Year 1752, when the Troops of the two Kings, were ready to march, and to effect the Exchange of the Villages on the East Side of Uraguay and the Colony of St. Sacrament, all the People of the Colony revolted, and disputed the Passage of the Troops to the Post of Thecla, and the Officers having threatened them with the Indignation of their Sovereign, they answered, That the King was a great Way off, and that they knew no body

body but their boly Father: Which obliged those Troops to retire to Colonia and Montevidio. In short, they maintained the War with such Obstinacy, during the Years 1753, and 1754, that the Portuguese General was obliged to come to a Truce with them, till his Majesty's Pleasure should be known. When this News came to Europe, their Catholick and Most Faithful Majesties, turned off their Jesuit Confessors, and ordered large Reinforcements to be fent to Paraguay, and the rest of the Missions, and the two Armies joined, in January, 1756, to endeavour to disposses the Fathers of their Country by Force, as all mild and perfuafive Methods had proved ineffectual. Many Battles were fought, in which Numbers of Indians, as well as of the Spaniards and Portuguese, lost their Lives, and the Indians acted in every thing as if they were well skilled in military Affairs. They were, however, worsted, and almost all the Country subjected. Wherever the Forces of the two Kings marched, they found undoubted Proofs of the Defigns and Machinations of the Jesuits, and Instructions to the Indians of the most horrible Tendency. They continued the War till 1757, and are yet far from being totally fubdued.

In the Northern Parts of Portuguese and Spanish America, these Fathers acted almost in the same Manner, as far as their Strength would permit them. By imposing upon our Court, in the Reign of the late King, they procured several Privileges, and a Variety of Tolerations, by means whereof they made themselves absolute Masters in civil as well as ecclesiastical Affairs, in the Provinces of Grand Para and Maranhao; they reduced the People to the hardest Slavery, and yet made them believe, that they were zealous for their Liberty, and not only got Possession of all their H 2 Lands

Lands and their Produce, but also applied to their own Profit, the manual Labour of the Inhabitants; allowing them only what was barely fufficient to support Life, and a wretched Covering for their Nakedness. They established in this Country, the fame Maxims that they did in the Southern Parts, which I have before mentioned, forbidding the Portuguese Language or any Communication with them. These Practices were not only contrary to the Bulls of our most holy Fathers, Paul III, and Urban VIII. but also to the Laws made in the Reigns of Don Sebastian and his Successors, forbidding the making Slaves of the Indians. From usurping the Liberties of the Indians, they proceeded to usurp the Agriculture and Trade of those two Provinces, notwithstanding the express Prohibition of the Canon Law, and formidable Apostolick Constitutions against the trading of Regulars, and especially of Misfionaries. In contempt of these sacred Laws, the Fathers of the Society had engroffed all the Trade of these Provinces; having appropriated to themselves, by Violence, every Sort of Trade, even that of the Necessaries of Life, exercising infinite Monopolies condemned equally by the Laws of God and of Nature. The Pope himself, scandalized at fuch Proceedings, gave Notice of them to his late Majesty, in the Year 1741, who acquainted the Most Holy Father, now with God, the late Head of the Church, that he would cooperate with his Holinefs, in every thing neceffary to suppress such Enormities: In consequence whereof, the Pope iffued the formidable and truly apostolick Bull, dated December 20, 1741, which contains fuch fignal Proofs of the Wisdom and Prudence of that great Pontiff. The King fent the most precise and positive Orders that the Decifion of his Holiness should be punctually executed:

cuted; but all this was nothing. When Don Michael de Balboens, Bishop of Grand Para, of the holy Order of Preaching Friars, began to carry the Pope's Bull into execution, fo great an Opposition was raised against him, that he could do nothing; and he was afraid of giving Notice of this scandalous Disturbance to the Court, lest it should make a fatal Impression on the King's Mind, who then laboured under the Malady that put an End to his Days, on July 31, 1750. On April 30, 1753, his present Majesty nominated Francisco Xavier de Mendoça Fustado, to be his principal Commissary, for the Regulation of the Limits; who wrote in the most pressing Manner to the Vice Provincial of the Jesuits, in Grand Para and Maranbao, to contribute their utmost, with the Indians in their Service, to accommodate the principal Commissary to the Place where the Conferences were to be held. But these Fathers, on the contrary, did all they could to stir up the Indians to Rebellion and Opposition, and to engage them to defert the Places, in the Neighbourhood of which the Conferences were to be held. They infulted his Most Faithful Majesty's Ministers and Officers in all Parts of. the Country, threatening to employ all the Credit of their Society against them, in Portugal, and infligating the People to molest and obstruct them in the execution of their Orders. In short, they unpeopled the Settlements along Rio Negro, fo that neither Rowers nor Provisions for the Troops could be found, that were marching to the Place of Conference. Notwithstanding all this, his Most Faithful Majesty contented himself with fending Exhortations to the Vice Provincial of Grand Para, to put a Stop to these Disorders, and with commanding the four Jesuits who had given the greatest Scandal, to be sent out of the Coun-

try. The principal Commissary, at length, fet out to execute his Commission, on October 2, 1754, but in his whole March was obstructed by the Contrivances of these Fathers, who had, as before, caused to be deserted the Country thro' which he was to pass. However, he surmounted all Difficulties in his Expedition to Rio Negro. At length, his Most Faithful Majesty justly irritated, fent Orders to the Bishop of Grand Para, to publifh, without loss of Time, the Pope's Bull of December 20, 1741, which declares all the aforefaid Indians to be free, and passes Sentence of Excommunication, on all who practice, defend, teach, or preach the contrary. His Majesty also published, on the 6th and 7th of June, 1756, two Laws, renewing and confirming all the Laws and Ordinances of his august Predecessors, in Favour of the Liberties of the Indians. The Jefuits, alarmed at these vigorous Measures, which the Bishop of Grand Para, in the Absence of the Captain-General, who was the General of the Troops, was to fee put in execution, endeavoured to fow Sedition amongst the Troops, and to cause them to mutiny. From Artifice, they proceeded to open Force, which they have employed to support themselves in these Cantons, in the same manner their Spanish Brethren have done on their Northern Frontiers . In January, 1756, they had built a City called Borba a Nova. This Place was occupied by Father Anselm Echart and Father Anthony Meisterbourg; they had two Pieces of Cannon with them. These two Fathers have been guilty of as many Irregularities as would fill a Volume;

^{* &#}x27;Tis very plain how much the Spanish Jesuits had imposed upon their Government, and all its Officers, seeing those worthy and intelligent Travellers, Don George Juan and Don Antonio D' Ulloa, give the highest Character of their Policy and Settlements.

indeed, one would suppose them to be Engineers in the Difguise of Priests. These Diforders continued, when the last Advices were received, in August, 1758, and so inveterate were these Fathers, and fuch an undue Influence they have upon their Indians, that even the Pope's and the King's Authority have not yet entirely brought them to their Duty in that Part of the World. Amongst the Instructions given by the Spanish Jesuits to their Indians when they marched to join their Army, you will own, my Lord, the following to be very extraordinary ones. "As often as you meet those People whom we abhor, you are to invoke the Protection of our Lady, the most holy Virgin, of St. Michael, St. Joseph, and all the Saints of our Habitations. And when those who hate you would fpeak to you, you ought to excuse yourfelves from entering into Conversation with them; taking especial Care to avoid the Spaniards, and still more the Portuguese; for the Portuguese are the Cause of all your Calamities. Call to mind that, in former Times, they murdered your Forefathers; they massacred many Thousands on all sides, not sparing even the Innocent. They have offered a thousand Insults, and committed a thoufand Outrages against the Images of the Saints, that adorn the Altars of God our Lord. In the fame manner they want to treat us at this Day; wherefore we ought to Study above all Things to avoid coming into their Power." " If it should happen that they should want to have a parley, with you, let there not be more than five Spaniards at most. Let there be no Portuguese; for if there be, no good will be done. Suffer not Gomez Freira * to come to it; for he it is and his People who thro' the operation of the Devil

^{*} The Portuguese General.

bear you fuch hatred. This Gomez is the Author of all your Trouble, of all your Distress, by his Impolitions upon his King, who is our good King. It is God, even our Lord, who hath given us these Lands: This Gomez doth all he can to take them from us to impoverish us." " You must never believe them when they say to you, You Indians give your Lands, and all you have to the Portuguese: That must not be. If they will purchase them at the Price of their Blood, you must offer the same Price to keep them. You are twenty Nations united to meet them: And shall rather lose your Lives, than deliver up your Lands." " Why doth not our King give Portuguese Buenos Ayres, Santa Fé, Corientes and Paraguais*. Must this rigorous Order fall upon the poor Indians who are commanded to abandon their Houses, their Churches, in short all they have, and all that God hath given them. We † will not yield up these Lands. If notwithstanding you are defirous of entering into Conference with us, let four Spaniards only come, no harm shall be done them. The Father ; of the Indians, who knoweth your Language, will ferve as Interpreter and then every Thing will be done, because in that manner Things ought to be treated, according to the ordinance of God, otherwise matters will be transacted as the Devil would have them. Our Resolution therefore is not to go where you would have us. Never have we made any irruption into your Lands to kill and impoverish you, as the Infidels do, and as you yourselves do; you who come to reduce us to

* Towns belonging to the Spaniards.

The Jejuit presiding over the Missions.

[†] Words put into their Mouths, supposing they are Parlying with the Portuguese.

Misery, as if you knew not the Ordinances of God, and what our good King hath commanded."

I fear I tire your Lordship's Patience; but I was willing to give you a Specimen of these abandoned and wicked Fathers, who have made fuch abject Slaves of these simple Indians, and whom the fulminations of the Holy Father and the King's Edict, were equally infufficient to recall to their Duty, to a Sense of what they owe to their God and to their Sovereign. The Brethren of the Society in Portugal, mean time, harboured all the Rancour imaginable in their Hearts whilst their outward Deportment display'd Humility and Mortification. We had nevertheless such good Intelligence, concerning their Behaviour, that we were not imposed upon by this shew of Sorrow. Where they could or durst unbofom themselves, they raved incessantly against the King and his Ministers, intimating that their Views were diametrically opposite to those of the Holy Church, and that some Judgment would follow them for driving the Venerable Fathers from their Missions and persecuting them, and thereby giving Scandal to the Indians, and forcing them back to their old Idolatry. To others, of whose Attachment they were less assured, they shrugg'd up their Shoulders, nay they wept, and wish'd that God would turn the Hearts of their Enemies and Persecutors, "God knows, our Zeal for the Catholick Faith," they would venture to fay, " was the only Motive to do what we have done: Where the Happiness of living in Wilds, Woods and Defarts and amongst a stupid and barbarous People, exposed to all the Dangers, and all the Inclemencies of the Country and Climate, unless we were stimulated by higher Motives than Interest? Alas! we fear the Temporal Powers, are too refin'd, and fet too light by

the Cause of Religion, when they can act so cruelly against its Propagators and Defenders! Ah! what will become of our poor Proselytes? Will they not return to that Ignorance and Barbarism out of which we had dragg'd them? Oh! who must be answerable, at the great Day, for so many Souls, thus lost to, and, as it were, plundered from Heaven?"

These Infinuations were not confined to Portugal; but the Emissaries of the Society spread the blackest Calumnies against his Most Faithful Majefty, his Ministers and Officers, in every Nation and at every Court where they had the least Influence. They, in short, so work'd upon the Common People here, and upon their Devotees, that every where was to be heard Whifpers and Infinuations against the Wisdom of his Majesty and his Councils, nor was the Royal Palace exempted from the Influence of their cunning Artifices. Even her Majesty and one of the Princesses were prejudiced by them, and his Highness, the Infant Don Pedro, became an Interceffor for these Miscreants, who now plainly demonstrated that they abounded more in the Wisdom and Policy of this World, than in the Humility and Meekness of the Gofpel.

We were not Idle, on our Parts, and tho' we gave them fuch a Latitude of Expression, and feem'd to wink at their Machinations, his Most Faithful Majesty was resolved to make a proper Example (without giving, however, too great Scandal to our Holy Religion) of this Machiavelian Fraternity. For this purpose, at length, the Bull of the Holy Father, Beneditt xiv. was ordered to be Published, in which it appeared that the wise Head of the Church, after examining the Proofs against the Society, as well as their Defence, in relation to their Practices, in the Do-

minions

minions of the two Kings, in South America, was fully convinced that the feveral Accusations brought against these holy Fathers were thoroughly well grounded, and that a speedy Reformation

of the Society was absolutely necessary.

Authorifed by this Bull, our good Friend, the worthy Cardinal Saldanba immediately fet about executing his Commission. He visited all their Houses, at Liston, in Person, beginning with the House of Profession at St. Roque, where even the Tabernacle * did not escape his penetrating Search. I will not trespass upon your Patience, to tell you the Discoveries from this Visitation; but, in a few Words, from thence we had fufficient Reason to perceive, that the Interest and Authority of this Society were entirely repugnant to those of the King, and contrary to the Welfare of the People of a well governed State. We have ample Testimonies, and they are such as astonished the good Cardinal, that no Self-denial, no Mortifica. tions were practifed by the Members of the Society of Jesus; but that every Appetite and every Passion has its Gratification provided for. In short, it was plain that they were a Community, a Republick, what shall I call it, within another, and ever counteracting its falutary Purpofes+. After this Search, his Eminence fignified to all the Colleges, " that they should, within the Space of three Days, deliver up to him the Keys of all their Warehouses of India Goods and Effects, upon Pain of Excommunication; all their Accompt-Books, Cash-Books, Letter-Books, Bills of Exchange; together with an exact Account of all their Estates, Lands, ready Money, Debts, Bene-

† Much the fame Reasons have prevented the Toleration of

the Romish Religion in England.

^{*} A Closet near the Altar, where the consecrated Wasers, or Hosts are kept.

fices annexed to their Colleges, and of all their Revenues and Possessions whatsoever." He appointed, also Sub Delegates, to inspect and take an Account of these Matters, in America and the Indies.

So much these Fathers had imposed upon the ignorant and superflitious*, that the Clamour was general throughout Liston, in their favour, and I believe had not great Care been taken, would have occasioned very bad Consequences. The Fathers endeavoured to give many Reasons against complying with this Injunction. They pretended to affert, that they carried on no Commerce but with what they got in return for Brèves d'Amerca+, Veroncias t, and Santoes ||. That the Gentile Converts to whom they were given, out of Gratitude and Reverence, made them Presents of Cacao, Sugar, Coffee, India Silks, and Callicoes, and that, though the King might prohibit them from continuing this Kind of Traffick, he had not a Right in Justice or Equity, to seize on their then Posfessions, or what they had for their Maintenance. At the fame time, the Cardinal Patriarch, Archbishop of Liston, issued a Pastoral Letter, which took from the Society all Power of preaching and hearing Confessions, and allowing them only to fay Mass. They are forbid to have any Schools or Academies (this is firiking at the Root, § your Lord-

+ These are short Sentences, consecrated by the Pope, and

inclosed in Silk, in the Form of a Ball or Pincushion.

† Medals of Saints, made of Copper.

| Images in Parchment, and others in Relievo.

^{*} This, from the Pen of a Portuguese, carries a strange Abfurdity with it. Were not the whole Nation Slaves always to Ignorance and the grossest Superstition?

[§] Pity it is, that fo many of the Subjects of England are fent to St. Omer's and Douay. Surely, without infringing too much the natural Authority of mistaken Parents, this might be prevented.

ship will say) all their Scholars have been sent to the Dominicans * Colleges, and put under the Tuition of those Fathers. It was necessary also to prohibit their visiting of the Prisoners in Goal: Offices of that kind, which carry with them fuch a shew of Mercy and christian Compassion, made too deep an impression upon the Vulgar, in favour of the Jesuits. The Trinitarian Fathers were appointed, therefore, to attend that Duty and to administer to Criminals at the Place of Execution. The Patriarch dispatched, also, circular Letters to all the Archbishops and Bishops of these Kingdoms + enjoining them to hinder the Jesuits from preaching and confessing, and the Society were ordered at the fame Time to shut up all their Dispensaries and prohibited from selling any more Medicines or Drugs, which had also contributed, too much, to raise them in the Opinion of the Populace.

Your Lordship will imagine, without doubt, that the good Fathers were not idle during these Attacks upon them; and as they had a fast hold of the Consciences of many mistaken People of the first Rank, particularly the Females, there was no hindering their being still their fecret and private Confessors and moulding them as they pleased. And indeed, the Edict of 1753, fo wisely issued by his Most Faithful Majesty, and which, but for the late dreadful Earthquake, and its fatal Consequences would have been carried into Execution with the utmost Rigour, ordering all Convents to deliver in Lifts of the Estates purchased by, or bequeathed to them, since the Ancient Law of Mortmain, and also for producing the Ancient Charters, or Establish-

^{*} Out of the Frying-Pan into the Fire. + Portugal and Algarve.

ments of their several Convents, with a view to shew the encrease of their Communities since their respective Institutions. I say, my Lord, this Edict had so much alarmed every Hive of Drones throughout the Kingdom, that they made as it were one common Cause with the Jesuits, against the Administration: So that notwithstanding the Power and Firmness of his Majesty and his Ministers, our Designs, so salutary for the Nation, would have met with prodigious Obstacles, had not the Wickedness and Malice of the Jesuits hurried them into the late Conspiracy, which will consequently open the Eyes of the People, and satisfy them of their true Interest. So that Good will thence result out of Evil*.

Joseph Mascarenhas †, whom you was well acquainted with when you was at Lishon, had, about the Time of these Proceedings against the Jesuits, entirely ruined himself in the Opinion of his Majesty. The Pride and Insolence of his Behaviour had been long insupportable, and after his Most Faithful Majesty had interfered and put a Stop to some of those Proceedings which he had carried on for the aggrandizement of his Family, every Look, every Action seemed to breath Disobedience, Rebellion, and Treason. You cannot forget his Uncle F. Gaspar de Incarnação, and with what Authority he was vested by the late King of Pious Memory †. You remember too, my Lord, to have heard me say, that his present Ma-

^{*} This is talking like a true Statefman. Indeed Confpiracies and Rebellions where they prove unfuccefsful, are fure to firengthen the Hands of Government.

[†] The late Duke D'Aveiro; but this Letter being written after his Degradation and Execution, never mentions his Titles.

This Expression was meant, I suppose, as a Speer, and not a Compliment, F. Gaspar was a Franciscan Friar.

jesty, when Prince of the Brazils, was treated often too freely by him. However, what F. Gaspar did by his Influence, in favour of his Family, puffed up Joseph Mascarenbas to such a Degree of Vanity and Infolence, as, added to his natural Vices, made him perfectly intolerable. Once he had the Assurance, having entered the Presence at the fame Time with me, and when I was preffing to inform his Majesty of somewhat the Duties of my Post required he should know, he rudely stepped in before me, and when the Audience was over, faid farcastically; "Remember, my Lord, the Difference between the House of Aveiro and that little House of *****." Indeed there was some Difference then; but the House of ***** is illustrious by its Zeal and Fidelity to its Sovereign, and would hardly now envy the Condition of the Mafcarenbases. I don't give your Lordship this little Anecdote from the revengeful Remembrance of an Injury*, but to shew you how far his Vanity could carry him. You know, with regard to his general Character, the illustrious Mascarenhases had no Reason to boast of their Representative. He was a Libertine, Debauchee, a lukewarm Friend, and a bitter, implacable Enemy; nor was there at Liston one Soul, that had any Affection for him, out of the Circle of his own Family. A Man of this Character was a proper Subject for the Jesuits to work up to their Purposes, even had he had no imaginary Grievances of his own: But these were not wanting; for if the being excluded his Majesty's Councils was a great one +, the hindering him from procuring the Life Grants and

^{*} I fear the Statesman here denies what is plain to every one else.

[†] It must be observed, that his present Majesty had been so insulted and overborn by the late Minister, when Prince, that he hated the whole Family ever after.

Commendams of his Family from being unalienably added to their Patrimonial Estate, (for they were truly subject to the same Regulations with the rest of the ecclesiastical Benefices of the Kingdom,) and the putting a Stop to his Design upon the Cadaval Estates, were more than sufficient to inslame a Man of his Temper, against the Government.

Foseph Mascarenhas had endeavoured to contract, in a most clandestine manner, a Marriage between his Son the Marquis of Gouvea, and Lady Margaret de Lorena immediate Sifter to the Duke of Cadaval. Don Nuno Cajetan de Mello, in order to blend that illustrious House with his own. At the same Time that he put every finister Method in Practice to hinder the minor Duke, who had never had the Small Pox, from entering into the Marriage State, by fomenting and stirring up Law Suits and Executions against him *, in order to throw his Estates into such a perplexed Situation, as to Deprive him of the Means necessary to bear the Expences of a Marriage, with which he might endeavour, to continue his illustrious House †. Stimulated to hellish Fury by the bars that were put, by royal Authority, to his Projects for this Marriage, he endeavoured to bring over to his Party, all the Discontented and Factious, who brooded over their imaginary Grievances, and not only forbore to approach the Court himfelf, where, he used to fay, he had rather have his Legs cut off than appear, but he instigated others to shew the same Difrespect to the Royal Presence: Nay, we had

+ Is not the Letter Writer a branch of the Cadaval Family?

^{*} One would be apt to imagine from some similarity of Language here, that the Writer of this Letter was the Drawer up of the Genuine Sentence, which must give the more credit to this Account.

plain Proofs that he fuffered himself to be flattered by his Sycophants with Titles never beflow'd upon any but the Sovereigns of this Kingdom, and to have it faid that the Throne * was the only Step that could raise him to a more illustrious Situation. The Quarrel, the open War, that had sublisted between his Uncle, the late Minister, F. Gaspar, and the Jesuits, which had been unbatedly purfued by the Duke and all the Family, feem'd to be the only Obstacle in the way of the pernicious Union of Interests between them; but this was foon got over; a like Refentment sublisted against his Majesty and his Government on both Sides, and the wiley Fathers (who never stand out when their Order is to be benefited or revenged+) made all fuch abject Advances to a Reconciliation as fuited Joseph's Vanity, and, at the same Time, flattered his vindictive Temper. They visited him, in the most private Manner, at his Houses in and near Lisbon, and a coalition of Interests was there resolved upon, after the most folemn Reconciliation between them had been brought about. It would amaze and startle you had you heard, as I have done, what Difcourse passed at these Conferences: There the blackest Schemes were canvass'd over, and the defigning Fathers, particularly gave the most flattering Hopes to Joseph, even, endeavouring to prove that his right to the supreme Authority in these Kingdoms, was incontestable t, enlarging upon all the disaffected Topicks against the pre-

+ This is, it may be remembred, a Character of the Jesuite,

by a Portuguese!

^{*} The Dukes D'Aveiro, were of the blood of the ancient Kings of Portugal, and when the Spaniards were expelled, an Ancestor of the late Duke and the Marquis de Villa Real, were both proposed for Sovereigns of Portugal, with the Duke of Braganza; but the Friends of the latter carried it for him.

[‡] See the Note above.

fent Government, and mingling all with the bitterest Reproaches, and the most accursed Threats
against his Most Faithful Majesty, and, upon the
Whole, ending in a Promise not only to absolve
any one that should attempt his Most Sacred
and Invaluable Life; but flattering Joseph that is
such attempt was made, and should succeed, they
had Credit enough with the People, to get him
rais'd to the Throne, and that, the Deed once
done, it would be easy to throw the Odium of it
upon others, or to put it to the Account of a
Mistake; his Majesty passing from one Place to
another, with very little Ceremony or Attendance. They expatiated upon the Oppressions
the Nobles laboured under*, and the Privileges

^{*} Whatever the noble Letter Writer may fay to excuse it, there was too much ground for this Imputation. Upon the raifing the Duke of Braganza to the Throne, in 1640, which was principally brought about by the Nobility; they took care to re-establish their Ancient form of Government. Accordingly their natural Cortes or Assemblies of the States were restored. These Assemblies were composed of the Nobility, the Clergy and the Commonalty, the latter represented by Deputies from the principal Towns and Cities of the Kingdom. They did not indeed enact Laws, but they advised them. They levied Taxes, and took Cognizance of many other Matters of the last Importance. The Nobility were also main Instruments in deposing Alphonso and raising Peter to the Throne, and were fo generous and publick Spirited as to ferve in all the Court Offices, without Fee or Salary, refolving to support the Dignity of the Crown without burthening the People, in Times of Difficulty and Diffress. But when John V. came to the Throne, he took all Opportunities to curb and oppress his Nobles and, upon very frivolous Pretences banished and confined Numbers of them, faying to them publickly, " My Grandfather feared you, and my Father loved you; but I nei-ther love you, nor fear you, and will make you know, that I am, and will be, the absolute Sovereign of this Kingdom." This Monarch was as good as his Word, and, by various Methods oppress'd and ruin'd the whole Body, and, to Crown all, there being a confiderable Debt owing to them from the Government, (the Interest of which was made an entailed Estate

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they had been deprived of in the last and present Reign; endeavouring to palliate all the Crimes and bad Behaviour of that Body, and to prove that they were wantonly injured and oppressed by the Crown; whereas, neither in the last or present Reign had any thing been ever done of that kind, but for the Benesit of the People in general*, and to secure the Independency of the Crown, which was much indangered by their proud and factious Cabals.

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to their Families, and was in some of them almost the only Inheritance they had) the Payment of the Interest was suddenly stopped, very arbitrarily; but the Principal, they were informed, should be paid them, whenever they could find free Lands for its safe Investiture according to entail. This was an Impossibility; for the Church had engrossed almost all the Lands that did not belong to the Crown, or were not entailed already in noble Families. So that many of the Nobility were reduced to Indigence, and so continue to this Day. Some of the great Offices indeed were filled by them; but they are too sew to gratify a tenth Part of those who ought to be provided for, and all the Salaries are very trising. The same humbling Steps have been taken by his present Portuguese Majesty, which may, together with the Hardships and Restrictions laid upon some particular Families, be one Reason that so many of the Nobility embark'd in the late detestable Conspiracy.

* This, I believe, is a very fallacious Apology, as may be feen by the preceeding Note; but we could expect no other from this Quarter. If the Nobility of Portugal, indeed, had not join'd the Sovereign in oppressing the Common People; the latter would, no doubt, have been a Bulwark against the Ruin of the Grandees and Nobility; but 'tis Experience that alone can make some Persons Wise. Happy the Country where the Independency of the Nobility and the Liberty of the Commons have a mutual Dependence upon each other, and form a Mound against the Incroachments of Sovereign Pre-

rogative!

† The words in this part of my Manuscript were very carefully erased; but I must needs say this very Erasement seems to

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And now, my Lord, I'll endeavour to account for the Tavoras joining with a Relation fo much hated and despised by them, as was Joseph Mascarenbas.

afford some Ground for what has been afferted, and that from no mean Authority. The Dutchess of Aveiro is a very beautiful Lady, and was always address'd by *** ****, with a more than ordinary Politeness, of which, it is said, she was far from being Infentible. The ****, tho' exceeding obfervant of the ***** gave her much umbrage upon this Account, and the late Duke used his Lady with a great deal of Rigour and Cruelty for two Years past. What feems to contradict fuch a Supposition is the Dutches's being fent into Confinement with her Family; but that might be done on purpose to save Appearances. Tis strange that the Favourites of the ***** should be embarked in the Conspiracy, if they did not imagine their Mistress injured; but, to be plain a Thirst for Vengeance on this Account, (for it has been feen how tender the Portuguese are of their Honour, is said to be the real Motive that link'd the Taworas in this Defign with a Man they hated fo much as they did the Duke a' Aveiro, tho' fo near a Relation. The Portuguese Punctilio might be very well suppos'd to be carried to the Height of even destroying a S ----- n, for a Trespass of this kind, who, they found returning, in a private Manner from dishonouring their House. To this cause must be ascribed the great Numbers of Family Meetings, both before and after the Attempt upon the King. In thort, nothing less than such a mortal, and never to be forgiven Injury, could unite for many Branches of a Family together, who had, in every other Respect, almost, very different Interests and many of whom had regarded each other with a most implacable Hatred The Affaffinating a Monarch, from such frivolous Causes, as are affigned in our Letter, or even in the Sentence published by Authority, was no such light Matter, as to be attempted by Persons easy in their Fortunes, and of the highest Rank, one would think, who must be very sensible of the Confequences of a Discovery. For it does not appear, by any after Proceedings, tho' they were many Weeks at Liberty, that they meditated any thing further than the Death of him who had disgraced their illustrious House. Had they intended a change of Government, or to breed further Convulsions in the Nation, they would not have waited till the King's recovery, or been so insensible as to suffer the Troops to approach Lisbon, in such a Manner without an Attempt, at least, to pre-

renbas. As Eleanor de Tavora * was excessive proud and haughty, fo she was equally superstitious and enthusiastick, and so attached to the Jesuits, that, ever fince they were forbid access to Court, she had not only refented it as an Injury done to those Fathers, but even to herfelf, notwithstanding all the World knew the Motives (as before given you) of their Difgrace. But what principally had irritated her against his Majesty, was the Refusai to break through all Forms, Orders and Precedents, by making her Hufband a Duke, foon after his Arrival from the Vice Royalty of the Indies, where it cannot be denied that he did the State fome confiderable Services +. That Lady herfelf and, by her Instigation, her Husband, had presented Memorials, and incessantly persecuted the Ministry to obtain a Distinction that, it was mildly represented, had never been granted for fuch Services. This raifed her Fury to the utmost Height, and you must in Justice allow, that no Woman had a more proud, infernal Spirit. Tho'

vent it. No; and 'tis plain, by their waiting so quietly for his recovery, they imagined they were not in any Danger of a Discovery, and remain'd satisfy'd with the Vengeance they had taken. If these Reports however, and this Conjecture have any Foundation, what Pain it must give one to reslect upon the Tortures the Criminal endured, and how could one wish that his Mijesty had, at least, put them to a less painful Death.

The Marchioness of Tavora.

† No Viceroy of Goa, ever comported himself with more Grandeur, Magnificence and Bravery. He was a good and a great Man (tho' he so unhappily sell into this Snare) nor was the Marchionels, the Creature represented in the above Letter. When the Marquis arrived at Goa, in 1750, the King of Sunda had committed great Outrages upon the Portuguese Territories, and by the ill Management of the former Viceroy, had made himself very formidable. His Dominions lie very near to Goa, and the Marquis of Tawora, in the Year 1553, put an End to the War intirely, by the Conquest of his Kingdom, after gaining several considerable Victories over him.

the Pursuit of this new Dignity was dictated from the Confideration of rivalling her hated Brotherin-Law; yet the Jesuits, who were informed of her Disappointment and consequent Rage, from her Confessor, one of their Society, made that Disappointment a Means of reconciling them, and of putting them jointly upon the Destruction of his most facred Majesty. This Reconciliation was brought about at the Marchioness's House, where they persuaded Mascarenbas to wait upon her, foothe and flatter her to his and their Purposes, by which she became a Principal in the diabolical Conspiracy.* . Could any thing be more extraordinary, my Lord, than this Coalition, when it is remembered, that there subsisted between the two Parties, Jealoufy, Envy and Malice, and that Mascarenbas had endeavoured, on many Occasions, to prejudice the Tavoras in, and to gain Poffession of Part of their Fortune. But what could be difficult to effect by Art like the Jesuits, and a Conning like that of the abandoned Mascarenbas?

After this Reconciliation, they all jointly and feverally endeavoured to draw every Branch of the Family, and others, into their execrable Defigns, which they too well effected, and her Hufband, two Sons, and Son-in-law, were the Dupes of Eleanor's fatal Councils, which have ended in the Ruin of the Family. They held frequent Meetings and Cabals at Mascarenhases and Tavoras Houses, and at the two Convents of Antao and St. Roque, as well as other Colleges of the Jesuits, at which Meetings, Gabriel Malagrida, John de Matos, John Alexander and other Jesuits, were always present; and in which it was debated and

^{*} Motives, fo trifling, I fear, justify the Suggestion in the Note, at p. 75.

resolved that his most sacred Majesty should be killed, and a Change brought about in the Government. By Eleanor's great Influence over Francis Affizes of Tavora * Lewis de Tavora+, Joseph Maria, her second Son, and Jeronymo de Attaide t, her Son-in-law, she so decoy'd them from their Allegiance; their Duty, Honour and every thing hitherto held by them the most facred, that they, at length, joined in all the Schemes of Mascarenhas and the Jesuits, who had a prime Hand, alfo, in their Defection, with a Warmth and Perseverance truly infernal. Nay, they drew, by one means or other, into different Degrees of Guilt, every Relation or Dependant of their Family, almost, whose Names, however, I hope, will not be made publick upon this Occasion, tho' for our own Security we have been obliged to confine their Persons, and of course must banish them the Realm.

Thus, my Lord, you plainly perceive the Nature, Rife, and Motives of this Conspiracy, the first thing I proposed to inform you of, by which it must plainly appear to your Lordship, That the Jesuis were excited by Revenge (for being driven from Court, and all Management of Affairs, and thence reduced to an Impossibility of continuing or palliating their despotick Transactions in America:) That Joseph Mascarenbas (who was Author of a thousand Cabals and Clamours, both against his late and present Majesty, by means of the Ministers and Factions of F. Gaspar his Uncle,) was stimulated also by Revenge, disappointed Pride and Ambition, to engage inthe dreadful Plot with the said Jesuits, and that the same Passions, together with a supersti-

‡ Earl of Attouguia.

^{*} Marquis of Tavora.

⁺ His Son, the younger Marquis.

tious Veneration for the Jesuits, drew in Eleanor de Tavora: And that her Artifices, those of Mascarenbas and the Jesuits, made the rest of that Fa-

mily, Partakers of their Crimes.

And now all Parties being agreed, a sclemn Meeting was held, in which the Murder of his Most Faithful Majesty was finally projected, not one relenting Voice amongst them pleading for MERCY to their Lord, their King, their Father, and to God's Vicegerent, whose Death these Wretches were facrilegiously plotting in this fecret Manner. September the third was fix'd upon as the Day that was to rob the Portuguese of his Majesty's Care and unwearied Protection: For which Purpose, Mascarenbas engaged two villainous Bravoes to affift him (Anthony Alvarez Ferreira, formerly a Domestick of his, and Joseph Policarp de Azevedo, Brother-in-law to Anthony) in way laying his Majesty in the Passage from his Country House of do Mayo*, to that called de Cima +, and in the attempt to destroy him. He gave them Money to buy Horses, and was several Times on Horseback with them, to bring them acquainted with the King's Carriage, which they were to attack, and to shoot his most facred Majesty, for which a Reward of forty Moidores was to be given them (a Condition which was performed by his paying them fixteen at one Time, four at another, and twenty at a third Payment) which Reward was paid by himself, Francis de Tavora, Eleanor de Tavora, and Jeronymo de Attaide. Emanuel Alvarez Ferreira, John Michael and Blaze Joseph Romeiro, the two former Servants to Joseph Mascarenbas, and the latter Servant, and Corporal in the Company of Lewis de Tavora, were also brought to

^{*} The Middle Palace.

⁺ The upper Palace. See the Note at p. 42.

affift in perpetrating the horrid Crime. Nine Horses were provided, and a Disguise for Mascarenhas, who was to make the first Attack. Meantime, the Jesuits talked in all Places of the Attachment of the Nobility to them; threatened the Court with the divine Chastisement, and suggested, that his Majesty could not live over the Month of September*, which Suggestion was vented in the Tone of a Prophecy, particularly by Father Gabriel Malagrida, who was the bitterest Enemy his Majesty had, even in that infernal So-

ciety, where every one was inveterately fo.

When the fatal Night came, they all posted themselves (that is, all the Male Conspirators already mentioned,) in feveral Parties or Ambushes, within a small Piece of Ground, lying between the Northern Extremity of the Houses belonging to the Garden called do Meyo and the opposite South Extremity of the Garden called de Cima, thro' which his Most Faithful Majesty generally returned Home, when he had been abroad privately, as happened to be the Case this Night; fo that if he escaped the first Ambush, the others were all ready to receive him. Upon his Majesty's Carriage turning the Corner of the aforesaid Northern extremity of the Garden Houses of do Mayo, Joseph Mascarenhas, came out from an Archway, where he, Alvarez Ferreira, Policarp Azevedo and John Michael lay concealed, and aiming a Blunderbuss at his Majesty's Coachman, honest Costodio da Costa, endeavoured to fire but it happily mis'd, otherwise had it went off and the Coachman been dispatched, his Majesty would have become an easy

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^{*} The good Fathers here, were a little out in their Politicks, as will be seen in the Sequel; but, good Men, to be sure they little expected that his Most Faithful Majesty would escape with Life!

Prey to these inhuman Butchers; but the Coachman feeing the Flash, and imagining the Piece was aimed to murder him, put on his Mules at a very great Rate. Hereupon Ferreira and Azevedo, the two Bravoes, were obliged to gallop after the Carriage and fir'd, at random, thro' the Back of it, beating it almost all to Pieces, and wounding his Majestyin many parts of his Body, with Slugs, which seemed to be made use of the better to secure the fatal Purpose they were intended for his Majefly's Death. And here the presence of mind of my Sovereign and that calmness so natural to him, was the immediate Cause, under Providence, that we now still have the Happiness to live under his Government; for he immediately reflecting that his chief Surgeon liv'd at Junqueira, and that if he advanc'd on his intended Way to his Palace at Ajuda, he should be further from help. and might expire with the loss of Blood, which he perceived flow'd plentifully from his many large Wounds; forebore Sigh, Groan or Complaint, and with his remaining Strength ordered the Carriage to turn back from the Place it then was in, to Junqueira, to the House of his said chief Surgeon, by which means his Most Sacred Majesty escaped the other Ambushes that were laid for him, by fome of which he must certainly have been Dispatched. His Wounds were found so extremely dangerous that it was thought proper he should continue at 'funqueira for a few Days, 'till he could with Safety be removed to one of his Palaces.

One fees, my Lord, in his Majesty's escape, the evident and Wonder-working hand of Providence, determined, thro' Mercy and Favour to Portugal, to preserve his Most Sacred Majesty's Life, thro' such imminent Perils and Dangers. And tho' the Pain his Majesty afterwards went

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thro', the excruciating Torture of his Wounds and his Cure, were sufficient one would think to have brought him to his Grave; yet his admirable Patience and conformity to the Directions of his Physicians and Surgeons, the Prayers of the whole Nation, under the Blessing of our Lord God, restored him to all our Desires and Wishes.

The Criminals who had actually fired and those who waited in the other Ambushes, returned after the Commission of this horrid Fact, to the Road leading to Mascarenbas's Garden, glorying in what they had done; but strangely fearful that they had not thoroughly dispatched his Most Sacred Majesty. Mascarenbas struck his Blunderbus which miss'd Fire, upon the Stones, and had the infernal Impudence to fay, Damnation feize thee! when I want thee thou art of no use to me. Francis de Tavora making some doubt that his Majesty was kill'd, Mascarenbas cry'd No matter; if he is not dead he shall die; another said, Aye, but the Point is, when will be be able to go out, &c. The next Day the Hellish Conspirators had a Family meeting, wherein some reproached Anthony Alvarez and the other Bravo, for not having done the Bufiness effectually, others said, had he not turn'd off to Junqueira, he would not have escap'd their furer Aim. And from the fatal Night to the Day they were fecured, which was not till Dec. 28, they appeared as alert and gay as if nothing had happened, and, indeed, feemed to be wrapt up in the Idea that no Suspicion had fallen upon them; but they were very greatly miftaken.

It was upon the affembling of a cabinet Council as foon as his Majesty was able to discourse, which was not under Six or Seven Days, that we fix'd upon such a Plan as we thought would readiest conduce to discover the Perpetrators of

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this horrid Infult. At first, the faithful Servants of his Majesty stood aghast; we look'd at one another, as if we were Wild, and even a Diftrust of every Person around us infinuated itself into our Minds, and we feem'd to give all over for loft. But our Souls, at length, refum'd their firmness and we gave such Orders as we thought proper. The Queen was vested with the executive Authority, an Injunction against speaking or talking of State Affairs was published, and fecret Orders were fent to the Troops cantoned at a Distance from Lisbon, to move slowly, and as it were in the common rout of Duty, towards that Capital, at the same Time that we fent down fuch Officers to Command them as we could depend upon the Fidelity of. Meantime, I felected Ten or a Dozen of those Followers whom I could most readily depend upon, and who, yet, were not known, publickly, to be my Creatures. These I gave Instructions to mix as much as possible with all Ranks of People, but particularly with the Nobility and the Jesuits; for I had some foreboding the Mischief came from their Quarter, and to take notice of the least Hint or Whifper that was let fall.

You will acknowledge, my Lord, that my own Situation, was become a very delicate one; my known Attachment to his Majesty, and the royal Family, the Ill-will I had gained of some Persons, for my steady Pursuit of Measures that were conducive to the Glory of his Most Faithful Majesty, and the Good of the Commonwealth, made me sufficiently apprehensive for my own Safety; but not terrify'd on that Account, I continued to act with the utmost Perseverance, in endeavouring to bring to Light the Authors of this dreadful Affassination, determined to bring

them to condign Punishment, even if they were

related to my own Blood.

My Intelligencers, before the Middle of Oslober, were able to direct our Pursuit after the Objects of Justice. They univerfally agreed that, there was an Air of Mystery, and, at the same Time, a concealed Joy very visible in the Families of Mascarenbas and Tavora; that they frequently held Meetings together, and that Eleanor de Tavora visited Joseph Mascarenbas perpetually. This Reconciliation between two Houses who, though so nearly allied, I was fenfible, bore the most bitter Hatred to one another, still encreased my Suspicions, that from that Source, the Nation had been fo shamefully injured in the Attempt upon the Life of its nurfing Father. The Air of Mystery Joseph Mafcarenbas put on, his Affiduity at Court, which was extraordinary, his frequent and particular Enquiries after the Health of his Majesty, confirmed me in this Belief. Soon after, an Agent we had at Rome, and another in Spain, procured fome original Letters written by the Jesuits at Lisbon, to their Correspondents at both those Courts, particularly from Malagrida, beforemen. tioned, wherein they fixed, the Month of September, as the final Period of his Majesty's Life, by way of Prophecy, as before observed, and one of the Letters, in a manner, gave us a thorough Infight into the Plot. All the while we put on an Air at Court of the utmost Ease, seeming to have no Concern, but for his Majesty's Recovery, and tho' the Troops were moving from all Quarters, the Conspirators (depending upon the Secrecy, that was fo inviolably sworn to by all concerned) feemed to be perfectly tranquil, and to wait patiently for the Bolt that was to crush them with its Weight.

At the Beginning of November, we gained almost a positive Proof of what we suspected. One Miguel Serveira, a Glover of Lisbon, and who had some Obligations to me, came late at Night to my House, and, at his pressing Desire, was introduced to me. He there, after expressing his Sorrow at the Accident that had happened to our Sovereign, said, that, hearing his Majesty was wounded by Blunderbusses, he had no kest for some Weeks within himself, because of a Circumstance that he believed might tend to the Disco-

very of the Authors of that Infult.

He added, tremblingly, that one Anthony Alvarez Ferreira, whom he knew to be a desperate and bold Russian, had borrowed a Blunderbuss of him on the 30th Day of August, which he returned him again on the 8th of September, and that when he brought it home, he made Use of these Expressions. I thank you for this Favour. I had better Sport with it than ever I had in my Life. Struck with this, I asked him, where the said Anthony had mostly been seen since that time, and had for answer, that He was so much at the Duke of Aveiro's, that he imagined he was taken into his Service.

You will acknowledge, my Lord, that this beamed Conviction, almost of the Turpitude of Mascarenhas: However, I shewed no Emotions before my Informant, contenting myself with giving him a Sum of Money, and ordering him to be in the way, whenever I sent for him. Some Days afterward, one of my Spies informed me, that in a little Hedge Tavern, the Persons who kept it being his Relations, he fell into Company with one Rossolier, a Frenchman, who, he understood taught Fencing at Count Uniao's, and talking of the late Attempt upon the King, the loquacious Frenchman said, amongst other Things:

I am sure, if it could be proved, that his Majesty had been fired at with Pistols, I should suspett a Friend of mine, one Ferreira, who borrowed a Brace of me, but the Day before the Accident, in order to try them, and returned them with a frivolous Excuse, two Days afterwards, though I know they would stand Proof. My Man enquired particularly who this Ferreira was, and I found, by his Account, that he was the same Person, that had, about the same Time also borrowed a Blunderbuss, and putting these Circumstances together, I could not help concluding that this Anthony Alvarez Ferreira, was one of the Affaffins. However, I kept all this to myfelf, and only made use of the Precaution of securing the Persons of Roffolier and Miguel Serveira, in the most private Manner, who I kept close at my Gountry House, under a Guard of my Servants, for fear they might through their Indiferetion, fay more than I wished at present they should. Soon after I received a Letter from ry Buftle and Confultation that employed every Day or every other Day at her House + .*******

Now, you will say my Lord, that I was prepared to unravel all this iniquitous Mystery, and indeed I began to think I might very safely proceed upon the Information I had, and his Majesty and the Privy Council, when these Circumstances were laid before them, seemed all to think the same. But in an Affair, that must involve in it the Destruction of many Persons of the first Rank, too much Caution, I was of Opinion, could not be used; and I was also of Opinion, that Self Accusations drawn by Torture, with the Evidence

[†] Surely this was not the Lady hinted at in the Note p 76. Here the Lines were likewise erased which makes me still very suspicious about her,

of a low Mechanick and a Foreigner, would be insufficient to satisfy the World of the Guilt of the Conspirators. As to the Evidence of *****, which I last mentioned*, I knew, I must, by no means, publickly make use of it. In order therefore to procure better and more unexceptionable Evidence, I formed a Plan, which was this. As I knew Mascarenhas and the Tavoras were possessed of many Friends in the Brazils and the East-Indies, I made no doubt but they would, by the first Opportunity, let these Friends know what had been transacted in Portugal, and as no Vessel would fail for two Months to our Settlements, upon the Government's Account, I got Pedro Mendoza, Captain of the Brig, Neuftra Senbora D' Ajuda, who was to be depended upon, to petition the Secretaries of State, for leave to make a Voyage to the Coasts of Brazil, upon the Business of making fome new Discoveries. I imagined, by this Opportunity, the Conspirators would endeavour to fend Letters, and it happened to turn out according to my Expectations. Mendoza, as foon as the Liberty was granted, and his Destination made publick, had large Packets fent him from Numbers of Hands, and fet fail at the Beginning of November. I gave him Instructions, sealed up, which he was not to open, till he came to the Azores, when he was thereby directed to deliver all his Letters and Packets to Don Julian de Mello, the King's Commissary at those Islands, who after inspecting them, and keeping such as he found it necessary to keep, was to re-deliver him the rest; with which he was to proceed on his Voyage to the Brazils, carrying some Advices from the King of great Importance. This was all transacted as I would have it, Don Julian, by his

^{*} See the Note preceding.

Majesty's Frigate, the Archangel, in three Weeks. Time, returned me twenty-five Letters, written by Malagrida and Mattos, two Jesuits; by Masscarenbas, by Eleanor de Tavora, by Francis and Lewis de Tavora and others, plainly avowing the late horrid Action, with Threats of suture Vengeance, in completion of their accursed Design, and filled with Menaces and Calumnies against the Administration.

Thus furnished with the Arms, we wanted, the most important Thing remaining, was to secure the Persons of these inhuman Wretches, and to bring

them to their deferved Punishment.

By the middle of December, we had march'd into the Environs of this Capital, between 7 and 8000 of fuch Troops as, with the Officers commanding them, we knew were at the Devotion of .. the Court : And all this was done without much Notice being taken, nor did it awaken the Conspirators, out of that Lethargy which had (by the Direction and Influence of Heaven) feized them. Proper Persons were pitch'd upon (civil-Officers) who had the necessary Orders given them, as had the principal Officers of the Troops, fealed up, and not to be opened till Dec. 28, at Seven o'Clock in the Evening. It was fo dextroully managed that, in the Morning of that Day, a particular Account had been obtained of the Places where all the Conspirators were to be met with in the Evening, whether at home or abroad.

It had caus'd fome debate in Council, whether the seizing of such a Number of Persons, as was proposed, would not too much alarm the Publick. But those who were for the most Efficacious Methods, stuck to their Point, which was, that the Mascarenbases, the Tavoras, with every Soul, Man, Woman and Child, of their Families should be confined, reserving to the King to

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make such Satisfaction to those that were found Innocent, for their Detention, as he should judge proper. You are sensible, my Lord, in the Number of those that were imprisoned, some of my own particular Friends were included; but let whoever be affected we thought it expedient to search thoroughly into, and root out the very Seeds of such abominable Treason and Parricide.

At the appointed Time, these Orders were privately opened and every Man did his Duty with Fidelity and Punctuality, fo that, at the fame Instant, the several Parties of the Troops furrounded the Houses of the Suspected, and their Persons, and every one in their Families were made Prisoners, without much Opposition. Francis and Eleanor de Tavora, with their Son Lewis de Tavora, were taken coming out of the English Factory where they had affifted at a Ball. given on Account of his Majesty's Recovery, and foseph Mascarenbas, the only one who offered to make Resistance, was seized at his Country House of Azeitao. When he perceived his House was surrounded, or rather before he sufpected it to be entirely furrounded, his Countenance fell, he trembled; but refuming fome Courage, gave Orders to his Servants to bring Fire Arms, and protested he would defend himfelf to the last Extremity. A fure fign this of his Guilt. But whilst they were putting his Orders in Execution, Lewis Anthony Leiro, a Notary, refolutely entered, followed by Capt. Gaspar Nunez and three Soldiers, and feized on his Person; then all his, boafted Fortitude forfook him, and fo conscious was he of his Crime, that he never once offered to enquire into the Meaning of his Arrest, only faying to the Notary. Sir, use me according to

my Rank, as you shall Answer the contrary at your Peril. By the time the Clock struck One, the next Morning, all this mighty Business was happily Accomplished, and Eleanor de Tavora, was safely lodg'd in the Convent das Grillas. Foseph Mascarenhas, Francis de Tavora, Lewis de Tavora, Joseph Maria de Tavora, Jeronymo de Attaide, and some others were strongly Iron'd in different Apartments in the Castle of Belem. rest of the Persons were dispers'd in such Prisons and Convents as had Conveniences proper for their Reception. The late Dutchess of Aveiro, with her Children, were only restrain'd to the Convent de Madre de Dio, with the Liberty of walking at large within the Walls of the Place of their Confinement. Orders were given that the should be at tended in a Manner suitable to her Quality, as fhe was imagined not to have any Concern in this black Conspiracy *.

The Publick feem'd, for some Time, aftonish'd at all these mysterious Transactions; but they were foon convinc'd of the Necessity of this Severity, by a Declaration of the Crimes they stood charged with. The infamous Anthony Alvarez Ferreira, was taken the next Day in attempting to get on board a French Ship in the Port; but unfortunately his vile Affociate Azevedo either fecreted himfelf; or had before left the Kingdom. However the Instructions, and Description of his Person, sent to our Ministers and Agents at Foreign Courts are fo precise that we make no doubt of foon Discovering his retreat: Indeed the Detection and Punishment of fuch abandoned Miscreants, interests all Mankind; but in a more particular Manner Sovereign Princes who

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^{*} Sure the Favour had fome extraordinary Motive for it, otherwise the near Relation she stood in to the principal Conspirator, would scarce have entitled her to it?

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must be all scandalized at such a Notorious and

atrocious Attempt.

These proud these haughty People, lost, from the moment of their becoming Prisoners, all that daring Insolence for which they had been remarkable, and could even speak to their Goalers in supplicating Terms, for the little kind Offices they were capable of doing them. In order to begin their Penance, they were commanded to be fed upon Bread and Water, and Preparations were begun for getting from them, by Torture, what yet lay concealed in their rankrous Bosoms.

Your Lordship must not think, that in this general Capture, the holy Fathers of Jesus were forgotten. No; all their Houses were surrounded, and no one suffered to go in or out. In one of them were found great Quantities of Arms, with Ammunition and other warlike Provisions; so that it was thought proper to order thirty of them into close Consinement, and I make no doubt this wiley*, this politick Order will be soon banished this Kingdom; nay, that in every christian Country, they will meet with the Fate of the pernicious Knights Templars. But to return:

Proper Examiners being appointed, the Prisoners, in the Castle of Belem, were severally put to the Torture, and, my Lord, upon this Occasion, it was thought expedient to heighten it, to the utmost Degree that human Nature could possibly support. All of them confessed their Crimes, except young Joseph Maria de Tavora: As to most of the

* The Jesuits, from their Confessions, knew the Secrets of the unfortunate Family, and artfully, by working up their Resentment against the King to the highest Pitch, produced this sad Catastrophe.

+ For their Pride and Sins against Nature, &c. the Order was abolished in 1309. They had then the Possession of 16,000

Lordships in various Parts of Europe.

rest, all their Fortitude was extinct, and even the haughty * Mascarenhas, stooped so low, as to beg, to supplicate the Counsellors present, to interceed to his Majesty in his Favour. Francis de Tavora, behaved with more Decency, and † said

fome Things that *****

But, my Lord, I shall not trouble you with the Ravings of these unhappy Wretches, under the straining that every Joint, Muscle, Nerve and Vein endured; let it suffice, that, they confirmed, by their own Confession ‡, all that I have before related to you; but when their Pains had been carried to the utmost Scretch, Frenzy, Madness, Raving, wild, incoherent Stuff, proclaimed to their Judges, that tho' the Rack had not robbed them of Life, Reason was entirely banished by it.

But I cannot omit the Bravery of Joseph Ma-ria, and with it had been employed in another Caufe. When first examined, he deported himfelf with a decent Intrepidity; but no Torture could draw from him a fingle Word, either in Confession of his own Guilt, or Accusation of others. When all his Joints were diflocated, he faid, Gentlemen, I am prepared for every Torment; but these Lips shall never utter a single Word more. What I did, I thought myself in Honour obliged to do; I am satisfied I acted from good Motives (these were the Wretch's Expressions) and no Torments. shall have Power to make me recant; or accuse perbaps the innocent: For Heaven knows what excruciating Pangs, Torments worse than those of the damned. may involuntarily draw from me ||. Tell your King & ********. Every one wept at the Behaviour of

Here again, the affronted Statesman speaks. See p. 71.
 Said, I suppose, what was hinted at in the Note at p. 75.
 Exterted Confession!

Very true and very fenfible.

[§] No doubt the Lines here again erased were of the same Tendency as those in p. 75.

this beautiful Youth; but the stern Rules of Justice

obliged them to shew him no Favour *.

The High Court of Judicature established for the Trial of these Conspirators, having had all the Proofs of their Crimes, and their own Confessions laid before them, after the most mature

Deliberation, passed Sentence, as follows.

That Joseph Mascarenbas (who with the rest, had been unnaturalized and degraded) be conveyed, with a Halter, ahout his Neck, and Proclamation of his Crimes, to the Place of Execution, where, upon a high Scaffold, after the breaking alive, by the Rupture of the eight Bones of his Legs and Arms, he be exposed upon a Wheel. That afterwards he be burnt alive, with the Scafffold, on which he was executed, and the Ashes be thrown into the Sea. His Arms and Atchievements, wherever placed, and his Houses of Abode to be pulled down, the Places where they stood reduced to a Wild, and ftrewed with Salt, and all his Estates confiscated to the Crown. That Francis de Tavora, fuffer the fame Pains and Penalries. No Person ever after to use the Sirname of Tavora, on Pain of Forfeiture of all their Goods. Antonio Alvarez Ferreira and Joseph Policarp de Azevedo, to be burnt alive, and their Ashes thrown into the Sea, with Confiscation of Goods and Chattels, and Erasement of their dwelling Houses, &c. Foseph Policarp having absconded, a Reward of 10,000 Crusadoes is offered for fecuring him in this Kingdom, or 27,000 Crufadoes, for fecuring him in any foreign Country, besides travelling Expences. Lewis Bernard of Tavora, Jeronymo of Attaide, Joseph Maria of Tavora, Blaze Joseph Romeiro, John Mi-

^{*} What horrid Ideas the Reader must here be forced to indulge!

chael, and Emanuel Alvarez, to be carried to the Place of Execution, with Halters about their Necks, &c. there to be first strangled, and afterwards to have the eight Bones of their Arms and Legs broken, afterwards their Bodies put upon Wheels, and to be burnt to powder and thrown into the Sea Their Goods and Chattles to be forfeited &c. and their Offspring to be declared Infamous. Eleanor de Tavora to have her Head separated from her Body, &c. &c.

This Sentence was figned at the Palace of our

Lady of Ajuda, Jan. 12, 1759. And, On Saturday, Jan. 13, a Stage or Scaffold, Ten Feet high, being erected, on the Key at Belem, within view of the royal Palace, with Steps at one end to Afcend thereto, and, to render the Fate of these Parricides still more ignominious and less affecting to the Populace it was not lined with any thing, but only the plain Boards appeared with the Wheels and all the Apparatus of Death lying near them. Eleanor de Tavora was first brought to her Fate, in a covered Waggon, attended by two of the Executioners. She faid nothing all the Way, and feem'd to have fallen into a State of Distraction. After fome little trouble she had her Head severed from her Body, by one blow of a large broad Sword. Joseph Maria suffered next, he behaved with his accustomed Intrepidity, look'd round upon the Spectators, and faid to the Executioners. Come, Friends, begin your bloody Work, I am ready! He was immediately stripp'd, ty'd to the Cross, first strangled, then broke, and his Body plac'd on a Wheel and covered as the Body of his Mother had been. The Criminals Jeronymo de Attaide and Lewis de Tavora were next Executed in the same manner, without faying a Word. After them the inferior Criminals suffered, in the Terms of their Sen-

Sentence; but it was impossible to put them to Death with the fame Decency: They feem'd all to have lost their Reafon, by their preceeding Tortures, and they struggled and cried out fo much that the Executioners dragg'd them to their Fate by Force. Next appeared old Tayora and the arch Criminal Moscarenhas, who were brought in an open Cart, together, to the Scaffold. They flared wildly at each other when they were first mounted in their fordid Vehicle (for none of the Criminals had been suffered to see or speak to each other during their Confinement) and old Tavora cry'd, Heavens, rubat a close of Life! Mascarenbas shrugg'd up his Shoulders, and the Tears trickled down his Cheeks. Tawora mounted first, and tho' scarce able to stand, his presence of Mind was so great, that he went to all the Bodies, one by one, and anxioutly taking up every Cloth, behold the Remains of all his pettilent Family. When he came to his youngest Son's maimed Carcase, he shuddered and shed some Tears, crying out, My Son, my unhappy Son, is this the fruit of all my fond wishest He then knelt down and kiss'd his disfigured Face. Rising, he curiously examined the Instrument of Death and said to the Executioner, Friend, don't increase my Pains, by any timidity of thine. I forgive thee, Whilst they broke him, his loud shrieks invaded the Ears of all the Spectators. He received the Coup de Grace in about 12 Minutes and was no more. Mascarenhas heard his Shrieks and look'd up to him, once or twice, with Terror and Amazement painted in his Face. He did not utter one Word during the Time they were fixing him to the Cross, but groan'd Incessantly. They were above an Hour dispatching him, and his infernal Yells still found in my Ears. He was then placed upon a Wheel in the same Manner with the rest, Lastly, the abominable Alwarez Ferreira, was brought in a pitch'd Coat and fastened to a Stake, as was the Effigy of Joseph Policarp, upon which the Bodies being uncovered to his View, the whole Machine was fet on Fire, and with all its Load foon reduced to Ashes, which were afterwards fwept up and thrown into the River. The Houses of the Criminals were pulled down the same and the fucceeding Day.

Thus, my Lord, I have informed you of every Thing relating to this horrid Plot and it's consequences hitherto; but as we have now near 450 persons, of all Ranks, and many Jesuits in Custody, I sear we shall be forced to repeat the same Tragedy on some of the most culpable: So that you will perceive our Fatigues are not yet terminated. In my next I may give you an Account of surther Discoveries and Executions, till which, believe me to be, with great Sincerity

and Affection, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most Obedient,

&c. ******



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