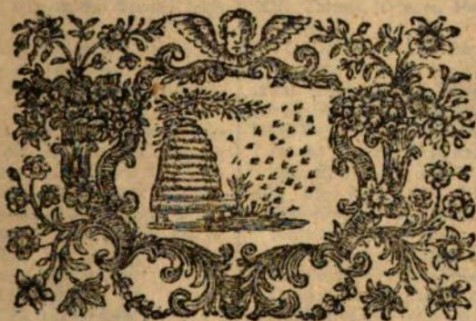


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AND
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LONDON MAGAZINE.

DECEMBER, 1751.

*The Account of Dean SWIFT, continued
from p. 593.*

IN the year 1736, while he was writing a satire, called the Legion club, which he never afterwards attempted to finish, he was seized with a violent fit of giddiness; his conversation was still sprightly, but his memory was perceived gradually to decline; he grew proportionably more fretful, and, from 1739 to 1741, his friends found his passions so violent and his reason so depraved, that strangers were not permitted to approach him. In 1742 his rage was encreased to a degree of madness, but he soon after sunk into the quiet of idiocy, and remained indolent and speechless till the end of October 1745, when he died without the least pain or convulsion.

It has been generally believed, that the dean was born in England, an opinion that originally sprung from his having been brought into Ireland by his nurse when he was little more than three years old, and which was afterwards confirmed by many circumstances; for he has been frequently heard to say when provoked at the ingratitude of Ireland, I am not of this vile country; I am an Englishman: a figurative expression which was literally understood; and Mr. Pope in one of his letters to the dean, mentions England as his native country: but the dean was so far from seriously denying, or concealing his being a native of Ireland, that he frequently mentioned, and even pointed out the house in which he was born.

It has also been said, that he was a natural son of Sir William Temple; and this relation is given, as the reason of Sir William's kindness to him, and of the manner in which he lived with his wife; for it is supposed that Swift, hav-

ing by some means discovered that she also was Sir William's natural child, abstained conscientiously from an intimacy, which, in a brother, would have been highly criminal. This discovery also is supposed to have sunk so deep into Stella's mind, as to bring on that melancholy, which at length terminated in her death; but tho' the legacy of 1000*l.* which was left by Sir William Temple to Stella, and some other circumstances, may give reason to suspect that she was only nominally the daughter of his domestic; yet his lordship observes, that there could be no relation between Sir William and the Dean; for that Sir William was either at Brussels or the Hague in a public character from 1665 to 1670, which includes two years before and two years after Swift's birth; and that his mother never crossed the sea but between England and Ireland.

The character which his lordship has been pleased to give of this great man is so various, and so diffuse, that it is not possible to comprehend it in an epitome. If, when I have brought the fragments together that are scattered through the book, they shall appear to be contradictory, perhaps even those who were not like the noble author distinguished as the friends of the dean, may wish that the good be true, and, if so, that the bad had been suppressed.

He was avaricious, except when he was excited to generosity by compassion; yet he took no fines for chapterlands, by which he relinquished private gain, to enrich his successor. His capacity and strength of mind were equal to any task whatever, and his observation was piercing; yet he imagined himself a subtle diver, who dexterously shot down into the profoundest regions of politics.

December, 1751.

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Monthly Chronologer.

Letter from on board a Ship at Kingston, in Jamaica, Sept. 21, 1751.

ON the 10th instant, in the evening, the whole firmament appeared of a very livid colour, horrible to behold, and the greatest part of that night was attended with hard squalls of wind; about 6 in the morning of the 11th it blew very hard at north, which brought off great quantities of leaves and sprays of trees from the mountains to the ships which rode at anchor a mile and half distant from the town, and were seen in the air like flocks of birds. At half an hour after 8 the wind shifted to the east, and after that to the south-east, when instantly it blew a hurricane which raised the sea in this harbour to a most surprising height, and in a few minutes it grew totally dark, so that at noon day the ships could not be seen that were driving foul of each other, and we were scarce capable of keeping ourselves fixed to any thing, the wind roaring above us as if the most tremendous thunder had been bursting on our heads, so that no man could be heard to speak. The height of the gale lasted till between 11 and 12, when it something cleared; and looking round us, nothing was to be seen but death and destruction, numbers lying on the shore drown'd, and others floating on the sides and pieces of wrecks, till the following afternoon, when we ventured out our small boats to bring them off. The violence of the wind was so great, that only 3 ships out of 40 sail of vessels rode out the gale, viz. the Cornwall, Duncomb, the Mercury, Matthews, and the Queen Mary, who has suffered not the least damage. The proprietors of what small canoes were saved in the town, ask 6 and 8 pistoles each to carry any man aboard or ashore, or to endeavour to save those that were perishing on the water. Of the vessels that were lost; some were drove ashore in the woods, overfet and stove to pieces, to the num-

ber of 27; and there are now riding before the town without masts 14. Some days since several vessels arrived with jury masts, and in a very shatter'd condition, who met with the gale between Hispaniola and Porto-Rico, so that it is to be feared the windward islands have suffered the same fate. At the same time the Fox man of war from the Havannah, Mr. Manning on board, with a great quantity of specie, was obliged to cut away all her masts, and let go all her anchors, and after driving over two or three keys, brought up between two rocks, where it pleased God to preserve their lives, although they had taken leave of each other, and were preparing for their last moments. She is bulged, and her hold full of water. They have saved some of the specie, but whether they will get up the rest is doubtful. Another letter adds, that the loss the inhabitants of Jamaica have suffer'd amounts to 300,000 l.

Letter from Genoa, Nov. 30, 1751.

ON the 22d there was heard not only in several of our palaces, but in divers private houses, such an hideous crack or rustling noise, as if their very foundations were loosened. This shocking alarm continued till the 24th instant; workmen however, were immediately employed to prop and support them, to prevent, if possible, their total demolition. What happen'd in our port, created an equal terror, for the waves swell'd to that prodigious degree, that we were apprehensive of the loss of all our ships which were then riding at anchor. The centinels who were posted at all our ramparts unanimously declare, that they saw, in the dead of the night, a light, like that of a prodigious fire, which seem'd to arise out of the ground. The repeated shocks which were felt throughout the whole city, were equally perceptible throughout the whole extent of our coasts.

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2. John Coan, a Norfolk dwarf, aged 23, weighed last year, with all his cloaths, but 34lb. and his height with his hat, shoes, and wig on, was but 38 inches; his body is perfectly strait, he is of a good complexion, and sprightly temper, sings tolerably, and mimicks a cock's crowing very exactly. A child 3 years 8 months old, of an ordinary size, with his clothes on weigh'd 36 pounds, and his height without anything on his head was 37 $\frac{7}{16}$ inches, which on comparison gives an idea of the smallness of this dwarf.

3. A negro, who by a most extraordinary and singular dilatation and contraction of the deltoid and biceps muscles of the arm, those of the back, &c. clasps his hands full together, throws them over his head and back, and brings them in that position under his feet; this he repeats backwards or forwards as often as the spectators desire, and with the greatest facility.

4. A female rhinoceros, or true unicorn, a beast of upwards of 8000*l.* weight, in a natural coat of mail or armour, having a large horn on her nose, 3 hoofs on each foot, and a hyde stuck thick with scales pistol proof, and so surprisngly folded as not to hinder its motion.

5. A crocodile alive, taken on the banks of the Nile in Egypt, a creature never seen before alive in England.

BILL of Mortality from Nov. 26. to Dec. 24.

Buried	Christened
Males 865 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1712	Males 579 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1137
Females 847 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1712	Females 558 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1137
Under 2 Years old 679	Buried.
Between 2 and 5 143	Within the walls 145
5 and 10 — 72	Without the walls 146
10 and 20 — 44	Mid. and Surry 747
20 and 30 — 132	City & sub. West. 374
30 and 40 — 152	
40 and 50 — 149	1712
50 and 60 — 121	
60 and 70 — 120	Weekly Dec. 3. 408
70 and 80 — 63	10. 431
80 and 90 — 29	17. 444
90 and 100 — 6	24. 429
100 and 101 — 2	1712
1712	

A List of Births for the Year 1751.

Dec. 3. **L**ady Ilchester, delivered of a son.

7. Countess dowager of Egremont, — of a son.

14. Dutchess of Gordon, — of a son.

A List of Marriages for the Year 1751.

Nov. 27. — Toton, Esq; was married to Miss Langton of Cheapside, 5000*l.*

30. Tho. Lawrence of Chestnut, Hertfordshire, Esq; — to Miss Amy Charlton of Low-Layton.

Dec. 3. Rob. Clarke of Sydenham, Esq; — to Miss Jenny Lampton of Southampton street.

5. Edward Powell, Esq; — to Miss Mary Felton of Fulham.

7. Holland Cooksey of Worcester, Esq; — to the sole daughter of the late Cordall Storrs of Gainsborough, Esq;

10. — Freeman, Esq; — to a daughter of Sir Wm. Strickland, Bart.

Fran. Gooding of Hambleden, Bucks, Esq; — to a daughter of late Valens Comyn, Esq; member for Hindon.

Ralph Jennison, Esq; master of the buck-Hounds, — to Miss Suky Allen of Durham, with 20,000*l.*

18. John Newton of Worcester, Esq; — to the only daughter of late Matthew Williamson of Chancery lane, Esq;

19. Col. Townsend, eldest son of the Viscount, — to Lady Ferrers, eldest daughter of the E. of Northampton, reckoned the richest heiress in England.

Francis Gwynn, Esq; member for Wells, to Miss Fanny Combe of Winchester, 20,000*l.*

— Lutterel, Esq; — to Miss Hardy of Brookstreet, 10,000*l.*

21. Sam. Jennings of Ham, Essex, Esq; — to Miss Alice Smyth of Epping.

Martin Madan, Esq; eldest son of Martin Madan, Esq; member for Hindon, — to Miss Hale of Hertfordshire.

22. — Stanhope, Esq; — to Miss Lawton of Sackville-street, 10,000*l.*

23. Rich. Savage Nassau, Esq; brother to the E. of Rochfort, and member for Colchester, — to the Dutchess of Hamilton.

24. Tho. Meredith of Kingston, Esq; — to Miss Jenny Leech of Richmond, 10,000*l.*