

A N E W

9*

Journey to P A R I S:

Together with some

Secret Transactions

Between the

Fr---h K---g,

A N D A N

Eng--- Gentleman.

By the Sieur du BAUDRIER.

Translated from the French.

L O N D O N,

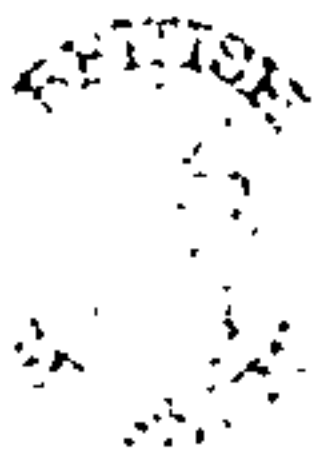
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THE
TRANSLATOR
TO THE
READER.

THE Original of the following Discourse was transmitted to me three Days ago from the Hague, to which Town it was sent from France; but in the Title-Page there was no mention of the Place where it was Printed, only the Author's Name at length, and the Year of our Lord. That the Tract is genuine, I believe no Person will doubt. You see all along the Vanity of That Nation, in a mean Man, giving himself the Airs of a Secretary, when it appears, by several Circumstances, that he was receiv'd only as a menial Servant. It were to be wish'd, the Author had been one of more Importance, and farther trusted in the Secrets of his Master's Negotiation; but to make amends, he informs us of several Particulars, which one of more Consequence would not have given himself the trouble about: And these Particulars are such, as we at home will perhaps be curious to know; not to mention that he gives us much Light into some Things that are of great moment; and by his not pretending to know more, we cannot doubt the Truth of what he relates.

'Tis plain, he waited at Table, carried his Master's Valise, and attended in his Bed-chamber; tho' he takes care to tell us, that Monsieur P— made many Excuses and Apologies, because these mean Offices appear very inconsistent with the Character of Secretary, which he would seem to set up for.

I shall make no Reflections on this important Affair, nor upon the Consequences we may expect from it: To reason upon Secrets of State, without knowing all the Springs and Motions of them, is too common a Talent among us, and the Foundation of a thousand Errors. Here is room enough for Speculations; but I advise the Reader to let them serve for his own Entertainment, without troubling the World with his Remarks.



T O

Monsieur Monsieur,

A T

*ESTAPLE.

S I R,

I Doubt not but you are curious, as many others are, to know the Secret of Monsieur P——, an English Gentleman's late Journey from London to Paris. Perhaps, living retired as you do, you may not have heard of this Person, tho' some Years ago he was very much distinguished at Paris, and in good Esteem even with our August Monarch. I must let you so far into his Character, as to tell you, that Monsieur P—— has signalized himself, both as an eminent Poet, and Man of Business; was very much valued by the late King William, who employed him in important Affairs, both in *England* and *Holland*: He was Secretary to the English Ambassy, at the Treaty of *Reswick*; and afterwards, to my Lords the Counts of P——d and J——y; and, in the Absence of the latter, manag'd, for some time, the Affairs of *England* at our Court by himself. Since the Reign of Q—— A—— he was employed as Commissioner of Trade; but the Ministry changing soon after Q——

* A Sea-Port Town in the *Sologne*.

A—'s coming to the Crown, Monsieur *P*—, who was thought too much attach'd to the † *Rigides*, was laid aside, and liv'd privately at * *Cambridge*, where he is a Professor, till he was recall'd by the present Ministry.

About two Months ago, our King, resolving once more to give Peace to *Europe*, notwithstanding the flourishing Condition of his Fleets and Armies, the good Posture of his Finances, that his Grandson was almost entirely settled in the quiet Possession of *Spain*, and that the Affairs of the *North* was changing every Day to his Advantage; offer'd the Court of *E*—*d* to send a Minister as far as *Bologn*, who shou'd be there met by some Person from *E*—*d*, to treat the Overtures of a Peace. Upon the first Notice that this was agreed to, the King immediately dispatch'd Monsieur ———, in whom he very much confides, to *Bologn*, where he took Lodgings at a private House in the *Faux Bourg*, at one Mr. *de Marais*, a *Marckand de Soy*, who is married to an *English* Woman, that formerly had been a *Suivante* to one of the forementioned *English* Ambassador's Ladies, over against the *Hostellerie de St. Jean*: Monsieur stay'd six Days with much Impatience, when, late at Evening, on *Wednesday* the 14th of *July* ||, a Person, whom we afterwards knew to be Monsieur *P*—, came directly to the Door, and enquired for Monsieur *De la Bastide*, (the Name and Place, I suppose, having been before concerted :) He was immediately shewn unto Monsieur ———, where, as I am inform'd, they were shut up for three Hours together, without any Refreshment, tho' Monsieur *P*— had rid Post from *Calais* that Day in a great deal of Rain. The next Morning I was sent for, in all haste, by Monsieur *de Marais*, who told me, that a Person of Quality, as he suspected, lately come from *England*, had some

† *Trier*. * A Mistake of the Author; for, Monsieur *P*— did not retire to *Cambridge*, nor is a Professor, but a Fellow. || *New Style*.

occasion for a Secretary ; and, because he knew I understood the Languages, wrote a tolerable Hand, had been conversant with Persons of Quality, and formerly trusted with Secrets of Importance, had been so kind to recommend me to the said Gentleman, to serve him in that Quality. I was immediately call'd up, and presented to Mr. P——, who accosted me with great Civility, and after some Conversation was pleas'd to tell me, I had fully answer'd the Character Monsieur *de Marais* had given me. From this time, to the Day Monsieur P—— left *Calais*, in order to return to *E——d*, I may pretend to give you a faithful Account of all his Motions, and some probable Conjectures of his whole Negotiation between *Bologn* and *Versailles*.

But perhaps, Sir, you may be farther curious to know the Particulars of Monsieur P——'s Journey to *Bologn*. It is reported that sometime before the Peace of *Ryswick*, King *William* did dispatch this very Gentleman to *Paris*, upon the same account for which he now came : This possibly might be the Motive (besides the known Abilities of Monsieur P——) to send him a second time. The following Particulars I heard in Discourse between *Madamoiselle de Marais* and her Husband, which being no great Secrets on our side the Water, I suppose were told without Consequence.

Monsieur P—— having received his Instructions from the *E——b* Court, under pretence of taking a short Journey of Pleasure, and visiting the *Chevalier de H——* in the Province of *Suffolk*, left his House on *Sunday* Night, the 11th of *July*, N. S. taking none of his Servants with him. Monsieur *M——*, who had already prepared a Bark, with all Necessaries, on the Coast of *Dover*, took Monsieur P—— disguised in his Chariot : They lay on *Monday* Night, the 12th of *July*, at the Count de *F——y*'s House in *Kent* ; arrived in good time the next Day at *Dover*, drove directly to the Shoar, made the Sign by waving their Hats, which was answered by the Vessel ; and the Boat was

immediately sent to take him in, which he entered, wrapt in his Cloak, and soon got Aboard. He was six hours at Sea, and arrived at *Calais* about eleven at Night; went immediately to the Governour, who receiv'd him with great Respect, where he lay all Night; and set out pretty late the next Morning, being somewhat incommoded with his Voyage, and then took Post for *Bologn*, as I have before related.

In the first Conversation I had the Honour to have with Monsieur *P*— he was pleas'd to talk, as if he would have occasion for my Service but a very few Days; and seem'd resolv'd, by his Discourse, that after he had dispatch'd his Commission with Monsieur *de la Bastide* (for so we shall from henceforward call that Minister) he would return to *E*———*d*; by this I found I should have but little Employment in Quality of Secretary; however, having heard so great a Character of him, I was willing to attend him in any Capacity he pleas'd. Four Days we continued at *Bologn*, where Monsieur *de la Bastide* and Monsieur *P*— had two long Conferences every Day from Ten to One at Noon, and from Six till Nine in the Evening. Monsieur *P*— did me the Honour to send me some Meat and Wine constantly from his own Table; upon the third Morning I was order'd to attend early, observ'd Monsieur *P*— to have a pleasant Countenance, he ask'd me what I thought of a Journey to *E*———*d*? and commanded me to be ready at an hours Warning. But upon the fourth Evening all this was chang'd; and I was directed to hire the best Horse I could find for my self.

We set out early the next Day, *Sunday* the 18th, for *Paris*, in Monsieur *de la Bastide*'s Chaize, whose two Attendants and my self, made up the Equipage; but a small *Valise*, which I suppose contain'd Monsieur *P*—'s Instructions, he was pleas'd to trust to my Care to carry on Horseback; which Trust I discharged with the utmost Faithfulness.

Somewhat above two Leagues from *Bologn*, at a small Village call'd *Neile*, the Axletree broke, which took us two hours to mend; we baited at *Montreuil*, and lay that Night at *Abbeville*. But I shall not give you any detail of our Journey, which pass'd without any considerable Accident, till we arrived within four Leagues of *Paris*; when about three in the Afternoon, two Cavaliers, well mounted, and arm'd with Pistols, cross'd the Road, then turn'd short and rode up briskly to the Chaize, commanding the Coachman to stop. Monsieur *de la Bastide's* two Attendants were immediately up with them; but I, who guess'd at the Importance of the Charge that Monsieur *P*—— had intrusted me with, tho' I was in no fear for my own Person, thought it most prudent to advance with what speed I could, to a small Village, about a quarter of a League forward, to wait the Event. I soon observ'd the Chaize to come on without any Disturbance, and I ventur'd to meet it; when I found that it was only a Frolick of two young Cadets of Quality, who had been making a Debauch at a Friend's House hard by, and were returning to *Paris*; one of them was not unknown to Monsieur *de la Bastide*. The two Cavaliers began to rally me, said I knew how to make a Retreat, with some other Pleasantries; but Monsieur *P*——, (who knew the Cause) highly commended my Discretion. We continued our Journey very merrily, and arrived at *Paris* on *Tuesday* the 20th, in the Cool of the Evening.

At the Entrance of the Town our two Cavaliers left us, and Monsieur *de la Bastide* conducted Monsieur *P*—— to a private Lodging in the *Rue St. Louis*, which, by all Circumstances, I concluded to be prepared before his Reception. Here I first had Orders to say that the Gentleman to whom I had the Honour to belong, was call'd Monsieur *Matthews*; I then knew no otherwise; afterwards, at *Versailles*, I overheard in Conversation with Monsieur *de la Bastide*, that his real Name was *P*——.

Monsieur B—— would have had Monsieur *Mathews* to have gone with him next Morning to *Versailles*, but could not prevail with him to comply; of which I could never be able to learn the Reason. Our Minister was very importunate, and Monsieur P—— seem'd to have no Fatigue remaining from his Journey; perhaps he might conceive it more suitable to his Dignity that Monsieur *de-la Bastide* should go before, to prepare the King, by giving Notice of his Arrival: However it were, Monsieur B—— made all haste to *Versailles*, and return'd the same Night. During his Absence, Monsieur P—— never stir'd out of his Chamber; and after Dinner, did me the Honour to send for me up, that I might bear him Company, as he was pleas'd to express it. I was surpriz'd to hear him wondering at the Misery, he had observ'd in our Country, in his Journey from *Calais*, at the Scarcity and Poverty of the Inhabitants, which he said, did much exceed even what he had seen in his former Journey; for he own'd that he had been in *France* before. He seem'd to value himself very much upon the Happiness of his own Island, which, as he pretended, had felt no Effects, like these, upon Trade or Agriculture.

I made bold to return for Answer, That in our Nation we only consulted the Magnificence and Power of our Prince; but that in *England*, as I was inform'd, the Wealth of the Kingdom was so divided among the People, that little or nothing was left to their Sovereign; and that it was confidently told (tho' hardly believ'd in *France*) that some Subjects had Palaces more Magnificent than Q— A— her self: That I hop'd, when he went to *Versailles*, he would allow the Grandeur of our Potent Monarch to exceed, not only that of E——d, but any other in *Europe*, by which he would find that what he called the Poverty of our Nation, was rather the Effect of Policy in our Court, than any real Want or Necessity. Monsieur P—— had no better Answer to make me, than

that

that he was no Stranger to our Court, the Splendor of our Prince, and the Maxims by which he govern'd ; but for his part, he thought those Countries were happier, where the Productions of it were more equally divided: Such unaccountable Notions is the Prejudice of Education apt to give! In these and the like Discourses we wore away the time till *Monf. de la Bastide's* return ; who after an hour's private Conference with *Monfieur P——*, which I found by their Countenances had been warmly pursued on both sides, a Chariot and six Horses (to my great surprize) were instantly order'd, wherein the two Ministers entered, and drove away with all Expedition, my self only attending on Horseback, with my important *Valise*.

We got to *Versailles* on *Wednesday* the 21st, about Eleven at Night; but instead of entering the Town, the Coachman drove us a back way into the Fields, till we stopt at a certain Vineyard, that I afterwards understood join'd to the Gardens of *Madam Maintenon's* Lodgings. Here the two Gentlemen alighted; *Monfieur P——* calling to me, bid me search in the *Valise* for a small Box of Writings; after which the Coachman was order'd to attend in that Place; and we proceeded on some paces, till we stopt at a little Postern which open'd into the Vineyard, whereof *Monfieur B——* had the Key. He open'd it very readily, and shut it after them, desiring me to stay 'till their return.

I waited with some Impatience for^d three Hours, the great Clock struck Two before they came out: The Coachman, who, I suppose, had his Instructions before, as soon as they were got into the Chariot, drove away to a small House at the end of the Town, where *Monfieur B——* left us, to our selves. I observ'd *Monfieur P——* was very Thoughtful, and without entering into any Conversation, desired my Assistance to put him to Bed. Next Morning, *Thursday* the 22^d, I had positive Orders not to stir abroad. About ten a Clock, *Monf. B——* came; the House being
small,

small, my Apartment was divided from Monsieur P—'s by a thin Wainscot, so that I could easily hear what they said, when they raised their Voice, as they often did. After some time I could hear Monsieur *de la Bastide* say, with warmth, *Bon Dieu! &c. Good God!* *Were ever such Demands made to a great Monarch, unless you were at the Gates of his Metropolis? For the Love of God, Monsieur P— relax something, if your Instructions will permit you, else I shall despair of any good Success in our Negotiation? Is it not enough that our King will abandon his Grandson, but he must lend his own Arm to pull him out of the Throne? Why did you not open yourself to me at Bologn? Why are you more unexorable here at Versailles? You have risen in your Demands, by seeing Madam Maintenon's Desire for a Peace? As able as you are to continue the War, consider which is to be most prefer'd, the Good of your Country, or the particular Advantage of your G——l; for he will be the only Gainer among your Subjects? Monsieur P——, who has a low Voice, and had not that occasion for Passion, answer'd so softly, that I could not well understand him; but upon parting, I heard him say, *If you insist still on these Difficulties, my next Audience will be that of Leave.**

Three Hours after Monsieur *de la Bastide* return'd again, with a Countenance more compos'd: He ask'd Mr. P—— if he would give him leave to Dine with him? Having no Attendance, I readily offer'd my Service at * Table, which Monsieur P—— was pleas'd to accept with abundance of Apologies. I found they were come to a better Understanding. Mr. P—— has a great deal of Wit and Vivacity; he entertain'd Monsieur *de la Bastide* with much Pleasantry, notwithstanding their being upon the reserve before me. *That Monsieur, says Mr. Matthews, if he were un || particulier, would be the most agreeable Person in the World.*

* By this and some other preceding Particulars, we may discover what sort of Secretary the Author was. || A Private Man.

I imagined they spoke of the King, but going often in and out, I could not preserve the Connexion of their Discourse. Did you mind how obligingly he enquired, whether our Famous Chevalier Newton was still living? He told me my good Friend poor † Despreaux was dead since I was in France; and ask'd me after Q. A--'s Health. These are some of the Particulars I overheard, whilst at Dinner; which confirm'd my Opinion, That Monsieur P—— last Night had an Audience of his Majesty.

About Ten that Evening Monsieur *de la Bastide* came to take Monsieur *Matthews*, to go to the same Place they were at before: I was permitted to enter the Vineyard, but not the Gardens, being left at the Gate to wait their return; which was in about two Hours time. The Moon shone bright, and by Monsieur *Matthews's* manner, I thought he appeared somewhat dissatisfied. When he came into his Chamber, he threw off his Hat in some Passion, folded his Arms, and walk'd up and down the Room, for above an Hour, extreme pensive: At length he call'd to be put to Bed; and order'd me to set a Candle by his Bed-side, and to fetch him some Papers out of his *Valise* to read.

On *Friday* the 23d in the Morning, Monsieur *Matthews* was so obliging to call me to him, with the assurance, that he was extremely pleas'd with my Discretion, and manner of Address; as a Proof of which Satisfaction, he would give me leave to satisfy my Curiosity with seeing so fine a Place as *Versailles*; telling me, he should return next day towards *Bologne*; and therefore advis'd me to go immediately to view the Palace, with this Caution (tho' he did not suppose I needed it) not to say any thing of the Occasion that brought me to *Versailles*.

Monsieur *de la Bastide* having staid the Afternoon with Monsieur *Matthews*, about Eight o' Clock they went to the Rendezvous: My Curiosity had led me

* Monsieur *Boileau*, the famous French Poet.

in the Morning to take a stricter View of the Vineyard and Gardens. I remain'd at the Gate as before. In an Hour and half's time Monsieur *Matthews*, with Monsieur *de la Bastide*, another Gentleman, and a Lady, came into the Walk: *De la Bastide* open'd the Gate, and held it some time in his Hand. Whilst Monsieur *Matthews* was taking his leave of those Persons, I heard the Lady say, at parting, *Monsieur, Songez vous, &c. Consider this Night on what we have said to you.* The Gentleman seconded her, saying, *Ouy, ouy, Monsieur, Songez vous en pour la dernier fois: Ay, ay, Sir, consider for the last time.* To which Monsieur *Matthews* answered briskly in going out, *Sire, tout ou rien, &c. Sir, All or none, as I have had the Honour to tell your Majesty before.* Which puts it beyond dispute what the Quality of those Persons were, by whom Monsieur *Matthews* had the Honour to be entertain'd.

On *Saturday* the 24th, *Monf. M—* kept close as before; telling me, a Post-Chaise was order'd to carry him to *Calais*, and he would do me the grace to take me with him, to keep him Company in the Journey, for he should leave Monsieur *de la Bastide* at *Versailles*. Whilst we were discoursing, that Gentleman came in with an open Air, and a smiling Countenance; he embrac'd Monsieur *Matthews*, and seem'd to feel so much Joy, that he could not easily conceal it. I left the Chamber, and retir'd to my own; whence I cou'd hear him say, *Courage, Monsieur, no Travelling to day, Madam Maintenon will have me once more conduct you to her.* After which I was call'd, and receiv'd Orders about Dinner, &c. Monsieur *de la Bastide* told me, we should set out about Midnight. He staid the rest of the day with Monsieur *Matthews*. About Ten a Clock they went forth, but dispens'd with my Attendance; it was One in the Morning before they return'd, tho' the Chaise was at the Gate soon after Eleven. Monsieur *Matthews* took a Morsel of Bread, and a large Glass of *Hermitage* Wine; after which they

they embrac'd with much Kindness, and so parted.

Our Journey to *Calais* pass'd without any Accident worth informing you: Mr. P——, who is of a Constitution somewhat tender, was troubled with a Rheum, which made speaking uneasy to him; but it was not so at all to me, and therefore I entertain'd him as well as I could, chiefly with the Praises of our Great Monarch, the Magnificence of his Court, the Number of his Attendants, the Awe and Veneration paid him by his Generals and Ministers, and the Immense Riches of the Kingdom. One Afternoon, in a small Village between *Chaumont* and *Beauvais*, as I was discoursing on this Subject, several poor People follow'd the Chaise to beg our Charity; one louder than the rest, a comely Person, about Fifty, all in Rags, but with a Mien that shew'd him to be of a good House, cry'd out, *Monsieur, pour l'amour de Dieu, &c. Sir, for the Love of God, give something to the Marquis de Sourdis*: Mr. P——, half asleep, roused himself up at the Name of *Marquis*, call'd the poor Gentleman to him, and observing something in his Behaviour like a Man of Quality, very generously threw him a *Pistole*. As the Coach went on, Monsieur P—— ask'd me, with much surprize, Whether I thought it possible that unhappy Creature could be * *un veritable Marquis*? For if it were so, surely the Miseries of our Country must be much greater than even our very Enemies cou'd hope or believe. I made bold to tell him, That I thought we could not well judge from Particulars to Generals, and that I was sure there were great numbers of *Marquisses* in *France* who had ten thousand Livres a Year. I tell you this Passage, to let you see, that the wisest Men have some Prejudices of their Country about them! We got to *Calais* on *Wednesday* the 28th in the Evening, and the next Morning (the 29th) I took my leave of Monsieur P——, who thanking me in the civillest manner in

* A real Marquis.

the World, for the Service I had done him, very nobly made me a Present of Fifty Pistoles, and so we parted. He put to Sea with a fair Wind, and I suppose, in a few Hours landed in *England*.

This, Sir, is the utmost I am able to inform you about Monsieur P——'s Journey and Negotiation: Time alone will let us know the Events of it, which are yet in the Dark.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient and most

humble Servant,

Du Baudrier.

Postscript by the Translator.

THE Author of this Tract having left his Master on Shipboard at *Calais*, had, it seems, no further Intelligence when he Publish'd it: Neither am I able to supply it, but by what passes in Common Report; which being in every Body's Mouth, but with no Certainty, I think it needless to repeat.

F I N I S.

