

other to rout at night, lounging at watering-places, and blowing their brains out at the regular seasons. It is hardly, therefore, to be presumed, that the inferior species of English, who compose the gentry of the United States, are gayer, more polished, or less suicidal, than their progenitors of the mother country.

The reigning president, unless fame belies him, is much addicted to gallantry, and not very fastidious in his loves. One of the vice-presidents was also, it is said, of similar propensities, and as indiscriminate in their indulgence. From such striking instances, is not a very general depravity inferrible? What an extraordinary race the medley of colours will produce in the course of a century! If polygamy were permitted, (and I wonder that in so free a country there should be any restraints,) a father of a family, happening to live to a green old age, might assemble children of all colours round his own table.

Of the men of America, the less you write the better. I shall have no objection to receive reports of that sex, whose peculiarities must constitute your chief and perhaps only entertainment. But of their ignorant and sordid masters, absorbed in trade and republicanism, who seem to know and desire no distinctions, but such as are to be earned with the sweat of their brows, I desire to hear as little as possible. For I never could subscribe to a sentiment of your favourite Dryden, that

Prodigious actions may as well be done
By weaver's issue, as by prince's son.