

66,800 livres; 52,300 to Frenchmen, and 14,000 to foreigners. Whereas since his present majesty has shone from the throne of France, I suppose sixty thousand times that amount has been appropriated to the same noble purpose.

Apropos of the sex. Pray do not fail to give us details of their appearance, manners, and education (if they have any) in America. Even the faces, figures, and costume of the American females, if not unworthy your pen, would be agreeable to our perusal. I presume they are infinitely mixed. What with the original English leaven, the aboriginal Indian, the Mulatto, the Creole, African, and other crosses, they must be a most curiously heterogeneous and streaked kind. From all these mixtures there can be no predominant complexion: few fair, and none ruddy. A torrid sun has gilded them with his cadaverous hues, driving the rose from their cheeks, with the verdure from their fields. I have always understood they marry early, breed fast, fade soon, and die young. Do the sexes meet freely at places of public resort? Was there ever such a thing as an intrigue in the United States of America? I think I should enjoy an amour with a squaw, string her bow, feather her arrows, run races with her, pick up her tomahawk, sharpen her scalping knife, play with her long nose-bobs, and sing guttural ditties with her. As to society I suppose it is not of this present age in America. Even in England, by all accounts, they live a melancholy sort of routine, walking and riding of a morning, drinking and picking their teeth of afternoons, putting each

* Line crossed out.