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Description Of A Dwarf Which Was Kept In The Palace Of The Late King Of
Poland.

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hang, drown, or cut the throats of any of their children they may suspect of having any inclination towards the Romish religion. This was precisely at the very time that the Calas's were in irons, and that the skaffold was preparing for their execution.

The news of the Girl's being drowned, came directly then to Toulouse. "Ay (said they) here's a fresh instance of a father's and mother's murdering their Child.," The outcry was general: the fury of the public was augmented upon it; Calas was broke upon the wheel; Sirven, his wife, and his daughters, ordered to be apprehended. Sirven, frightened, had only the time to fly with all his sick family. Destitute of all aid, they were forced to walk on foot over steep hills, at that time covered with snow. One of his daughters was delivered, amidst the ice, of a child, which, dying as it was, she carried in her arms, herself hardly at live. At length they got into the road that leads to Switzerland.

The same chance that brought to me the children of Calas, directed also to me Sirven. Figure to yourself, my friend, four sheep accused by butchers of having devoured a lamb: This is what I saw; but it is impossible for any description to do justice to so much innocence, and so much distress. What ought I to do? Or what would you have done in my place? is it enough to groan only over such abuses of human nature? I took the liberty of writing to the President of Languedoc, but he was not at Toulouse. I got one of your friends to present a petition to the Vice-chancellor. In the mean while, near Castres, the father, the mother, and the two daughters, were executed in effigy; their estate confiscated, their goods despoiled, the ruin was complete. Behold here a virtuous, decent, innocent family delivered up to shame and beggary among strangers. It is true, they found pity, but how cruel it is to be objects of pity as long as they live! The answer, however, sent me to my application, was that they might possibly obtain their pardon.

DESCRIPTION OF A DWARF WHICH WAS
KEPT IN THE PALACE OF THE LATE
KING OF POLAND. *)

The parents of this dwarf were healthy, strong peasants; affirmed, that at the time of his birth, he scarcely weighed a pound and a quarter. It is not known what were

*) Buffon and d'Aubenton's Natural History, T. XV.

were then his dimensions, but one may judge they were very small, as he was presented on a plate to be baptized, and for a long time had a wooden-shee for his bed.

His mouth, though well proportioned to the rest of his body, was not large enough to receive the nipple of his mother; he was suckled therefore by a goat, and she performed the part of a nurse admirably well. When six months old he had the smallpox, and recovered without any other assistance than the care of his mother and the milk of the Goat. At the age of eighteen monts he could articulate some words. At two years, he could support himself upon his legs, and walk almost without assistance; a pair of shoes were then made for him, wich were no more than an inch and half in length.

He was attacked by several diseases; but there were no marks of any other disease upon the skin besides the smallpox.—He was now six years of age: hitherto his food had been garden-stuff, bacon and potatoes; his height was about fifteen inches, and he did not weigh more than thirteen pounds; his person was agreeable and well proportioned, he was in perfect health, but there was little appearance of intellect.—At this time the King of Poland ordered him to Luneville, gave him the name of *Bébé*, and kept him in his palace. *Bébé* thus exchanged the condition of a peasant for the luxuries of a court; but he experienced no change either in his body or his mind.

He had no sense of religion; was incapable of reasoning; could learn neither music nor dancing; was susceptible however of passions, particularly anger, jealousy and voluptuousness.—When sixteen years old, he was only twenty-nine inches in height; he was still healthy and well proportioned; but at this time his strength began to decrease, the spine became crooked, the head fell forwards, the legs were enfeebled, one shoulderblade projected, the nose was greatly enlarged; *Bébé* lost his gaiety, and became a valetudinarian; and yet his stature was increased four inches in the four succeeding years.—

M. le Comte de Treslan foretold that this dwarf would die of old age before he was thirty; and in effect so it was, for at twenty-one he was shrunk and decrepit; and at twenty-two, it was with difficulty that he could make an hundred steps successively.—In his twenty-third year he was attacked with a fever, and fell into a kind of a lethargy; he had some intervals, but spoke with great difficulty:

difficulty: for the five last days, his ideas seemed to be more clear than when he was in health. This disease soon proved fatal. — At the time of his death, he was measured thirty-three inches.

REMARKS ON THE PRESENT STATE OF THE
TRADE OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, &c. *)

The other governments of New England, **) sixty or seventy years ago, imported no English goods, or next to none, directly from England; they were supplied by the Massachusetts trader. Now although our trade with Great Britain, upon the whole, is supposed to cause no addition to our wealth, yet at least so far as we are the channel for conveying supplies of goods to the other colonies for their consumption, a benefit undoubtedly accrues. New-Hampshire, by their convenient situation, were induced to become their own importers in a great measure some years before the alteration of our currency.

They made their returns by shipping lumber, &c. easier than we did. At present they probably import English goods equal to their consumption. Connecticut, until we abolished our bills of credit and theirs with them, continued their trade with us for English goods, but soon after turned great part of their trade to New-York, and some persons became importers from England. They soon discovered their error. The produce of New-York is so much the same with that of Connecticut, that the Massachusetts market will always be the best. The importer finds it more difficult, to make his returns to England from Connecticut, than from the Massachusetts. Connecticut trade therefore soon returned to the state it had formerly been in.

Rhode-Island in part, became their own importers also, which they still continue.

For the other colonies on the continent, between South-Carolina and the Massachusetts, there never has been any considerable trade. The chief benefit from that colony has been the affording freights for our ships in the European trade.

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*) Governor Hutchinson's History of the Colony of Massachusetts-Bay. Vol. 2. Lond. 1767.

**) Viz. Connecticut, Rhode-Island and New-Hampshire.