

the Counsellors of *Bern* give a very small share of their Estates to their Children when they marry them: all that they purpose is, to make a Bailiage sure to them: for this they feast and drink, and spare nothing by which they may make sure a sufficient number of Votes: but it is the Chamber of the *Bannerets* that admits the Pretenders to the Competition. When the Bailiff is chosen, he takes all possible methods to make the best of it he can, and lets few Crimes pass that carry either Confiscations or Fines after them: his Justice also is generally suspected. It is true, those of the Bailiage may complain to the Council at *Bern*, as the oppressed Provinces did anciently to the Senate of *Rome*: and there have been severe Judgments against some more exorbitant Bailiffs; yet as Complaints are not made, except upon great Occasions, which are not often given by the Bailiffs, so being the general Interest of the Citizens of *Bern* to make all possible Advantages of those Employments, the Censure will be but gentle, except the Complaint is crying.

In *Bern* there is very little Trade, only what is necessary for the support of the Towns. They maintain Professors in the Universities of *Bern* and *Lausanne*, the one for the *German* Territory, which is the ancient Canton, and the other for the new Conquest, which is the *French*. In the former there are about three hundred Parishes, in the other there are but about a hundred and fifty: but in the Benefices of the *German* side, the ancient Rights of the Incumbents are generally preserved, so that some Benefices are worth a thousand Crowns; whereas in the *Pais des Vaud* the Provisions are generally from a hundred to two hundred Crowns. It is visible that those of *Bern* trust more to the Affections and Fidelity of their Subjects, than to the strength of their Walls: for as they have never finished them, so what is built cannot be brought to a regular Fortification; and it is not  
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