

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1783.

L O N D O N . HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, February 17.

Mr. Thomas Pitt opened the debate in declaring to the house, that it was with a mixture of pain and pleasure that he at length saw the day arrive, so long wished for, which, putting a period to a ruinous war, restored to the British empire the blessings of peace—A mixture of pleasure and pain (continued he) —Of pain, at the view of the sacrifices it has been found indispensibly necessary to make—but of pleasure, in anticipating the various felicity, with which peace was hastening to compensate to the nation for their very sacrifices.

"Although this latter sentiment will not be so readily adopted as the former; although it is unhappily true, that mankind are more inclined to manifest their discontent, than their joy and satisfaction; although, of course, experience has constantly demonstrated, that peace, how ardently soever it may be desired, becomes always unpopular as soon as it is made; is, nevertheless, apparent to every unpartial mind, that however the loss and gain may be balanced at the end of a war, peace is always a blessing. But two reasons concur, in the first moments, to prevent it to us another point of view. If the war has been glorious, if spirits, elevated, set no bounds to our pretensions, or to the supposed humiliation of the enemy; if, on the contrary, it has been, like that from which this nation is just beginning to relieve, only a series of disasters, our national pride can scarcely stoop to exact no concessions. But if we disdain even moderation like this, ought such unfeeling arrogance to prolong the war, till we are not only unable to support it, but even to prefer our being as an independent people? Too deeply impressed with this just reflection, is it not with pain that I undertake the task which has this day fallen to my lot. How reasonably soever my humble faculties may represent the matter, I know how ill that I have to propose will be received; I already anticipate the clamours of prejudice; but it is without these walls; here I expect to encounter no such enemies as reason and common sense, and I submit myself to candour which distinguishes this honourable house.

"When two nations enter into a war, neutral spectators always have some reasons to determine which of them will have the advantage. The complication of events, the combination of causes, which have successively declared against us, have too well justified the opinion of foreigners, and the fears of our own people, that the confederation of our enemies would at length be found too powerful for the naked, unsupported strength of this nation. These fears have been realized; our enemies have determined their superiority; and by this incontrovertible truth alone we must be governed in determining whether a peace was, or was not necessary.

"If gentlemen will repeat here, what has been said out of doors, that we might have made a better peace, if we had produced the means, and let the most prejudiced minds pronounce on the possibility or impossibility of putting them in execution. Alas, this is a subject on which one cannot fix a moment's attention, without uttering a painful sigh at those execrable first causes, which inevitably drew after them every succeeding calamity! That invaluable branch of this empire, which, at the close of last war, extended from Hudson's Bay to the gulph of Mexico, as the very beginning of this, was almost confined within the narrow limits of the former French possessions in America. Thus we were no longer that powerful nation, which twenty years before could have defied a confederacy of all Europe. A decline of power announces a diminution of success—it was impossible to recover our lost superiority, since the whole nation had determined that America was lost for ever to the British crown. It was in this wilderness of calamities, when we had nothing but future misfortunes in perspective, that our ministers seized a moment of victory, the only moment, perhaps, in which the safety of the nation was practicable, to listen to those terms of peace, which prejudice alone can consider as unfavourable. What must we have done? Answer me this single question; whether it was better to continue the war, than to accept a peace, of which the worst that can be said is, that it does not correspond to the wishes of a people accustomed to conquer and elevated by previous successes. But before any gentleman will answer in the affirmative, let me call their attention to the following sketch of the state of the nation at that time, when his majesty's ministers resolved that peace was indispensable. The papers I shall lay before the house cannot be suspected, since they contain the report of the committee appointed for this purpose, in order to prepare the house for that discussion which must have taken place on this, or some other day, and to convince them of the true state of the public finances. As this enquiry was demanded by myself, my conduct in this respect has been plain and consistent; I have uniformly reproached the American war; and I shall now demonstrate, that the pursuit of that war alone has so totally exhausted the finances of this country. For this purpose, I shall lay before the house a comparative state of our present situation, and of that before the contest with America. In January, 1776, the amount of the national debt was 121 millions, the annual interest of which was £.4,411,256."

Mr. Pitt then proceeds to shew, that a war of five years cost five millions more than all the wars of the last age, including the splendid and important victories of the duke of Marlborough; and concludes with demonstrating, that the present annual interest of the national debt amounts to £.9,393,137—The civil list expenses, to £.900,000—The expenses of government, in time of peace, to £.3,500,000—Total of annual expence, £.13,793,137, without including the arrears of the civil list, amounting to £.2,500,000, which, he says, must be paid by some means or other—while the present taxes, all of which must be continued, produce only £.12,500,000.

He proceeds—"These facts, I think, are sufficient to convince this house, that a decree from Heaven, that should have condemned this nation to another year's war, would have, in effect, condemned her to certain destruction: and if I am not deceived in this belief, I think I may assume it as a principle, and of course as a rule for the conduct of parliament, that a peace, such as the ministers have concluded, is an object extremely to be desired. I know that, unhappily, exceptions may always be made to the most accurate general observations; I know that certain partial considerations of commerce militate with my general principle; but trade has infinite and prompt resources, which landed property has not; and this property, which constitutes the radical strength of every country, was lessening its value every day. I am not ignorant, that there is a certain description of men, who, without any other motive than the malignant pleasure of finding fault; without any other view than to tease men in office, say among themselves—"Where was the mighty hurry? Why not take the chance of another campaign?" Mighty fine truly! This is the precise language of a mad gambler, who crying out, "One throw more, and the last," just completes his ruin. If these considerations are just, I flatter myself, the house will turn a deaf ear to the clamours of two sorts of men, equally to be suspected; I mean those who have been, and those who wish to be, ministers. I consider these persons as dealers in the fame market, who depreciate the commodities of other people, in order to raise the value of their own. I confess, I am always armed against them both; and if they present themselves only to say, it is a bad peace, I answer, their bare assertion is insignificant. If they offer to prove it, let me ask them, whether they could have done a better? If they say, yes—come, then, say I, tell us how—Here they are at a dead stop, and can only return to the watch-word of their parties—"It is a bad peace!" We shall be able to form an idea of the prejudices of men of this class, by a knowledge of the following fact. I have addressed myself, indirectly, to Mr. Fox, and lord North, to engage the first not to interrupt the quiet of his country, by examining, in detail, a negotiation, which ought to, and can be judged only in the mass; and advising the second to seize this opportunity of making some reparation to this nation for the errors and calamities of his ill-starred administration, by justifying a treaty, which the miseries of the American war have forced upon her. If, before we proceed to vote upon the question which I shall submit to the house, these two honourable members will answer my first question, and say, they could have made a more advantageous peace, let them do me the favour to determine, whether the prospect of advantage was equal to the hazard of another campaign, and the certain expence of twenty millions sterling."

He goes on to observe, that the cessions made to France and Spain were of no great importance, and then says—"It is true, that by the treaty with the United States of America, we acknowledge their independence; but all the world knows, that in so doing, we only seem to give them what God and Nature have already put into their hands; and in defining their limits, we still reserve Nova-scotia and Canada, countries large enough for all the speculations of commerce.

"I pass now to the only article that afflicted, cruelly afflicted me, at the first reading: that, I mean, which relates to the loyalists. I here are, however, some observations to be made on this matter. All the individuals, comprehended under the general term of loyalists, are not equally interesting to us. I distinguish them into two classes; one of which is composed of men whom I honour and revere, with whom I would divide my only crown, and my last mouthful of bread; but I detest and abhor the other; I consider them as an impure, corrupted nest of vipers and traitors, as the most abandoned and flagitious scoundrels in the universe; who, by treachery to America, and constant deceit to this nation, have well nigh brought down destruction on both countries. God, who knows my heart, knows how sincerely I wish it were possible to do something more for the first class of them; and God only knows whether such a possibility exists. But I ask, whether to save a handful of deserting subjects, Great-Britain ought to run the hazard of her own ruin?—Whether on their account alone, it can be thought expedient to continue the war? If any gentleman says yes, I would then make two other enquiries—first, Whether the efforts, necessary to be made, could be proportionate to the object in view? And 2d, Whether, after the utmost exertion, success would be certain or even probable? I do verily think that, even for these unhappy men, matters have taken the most favourable turn they could. Congress is solemnly bound to recommend them to the several states; and we cannot doubt they

will do it with equal zeal and integrity. In short, if parliament testifies any aversion to the treaty with America, it may be remembered, it is the work of parliament itself. And with respect to the preliminaries with France and Spain, it is not long since Mr. Fox said, in a full house, and many gentlemen repeated the cry, "That we must have peace, whatever should be the price of it."

Mr. Pitt concluded by moving, "That a humble address be presented to his majesty, containing the thanks of this house for his gracious condescension in communicating the different treaties which his majesty has concluded; and that we have considered them with that attention which their importance demands—For to express to his majesty, in the most grateful terms, how much we are satisfied, that, in consequence of the powers with which he has been vested, his majesty has, by the provisional articles concluded with North America, laid the foundation of a treaty of peace, which, we have reason to hope, will establish and secure between the two countries a reconciliation and perfect friendship—That, in confidence of this we dare express to his majesty our just expectations, that the several states of North-America will execute, in the most effectual and satisfactory manner, the measures which the congress is so solemnly engaged, by treaty, to recommend in favour of the persons who have suffered for the part which they have taken in the war; and that we shall consider these circumstances as the surest indication of the return of friendship." The remainder of the motion expresses great satisfaction with the preliminaries of peace concluded with France and Spain; and that every attention will be given in the extension of commerce.

The above motion, after undergoing some amendments, was passed by a majority of sixteen.

L O N D O N , February 4.

A true copy of a letter from a British officer on board one of the transports lying in the harbour of Charles-town, the day after that important garrison was evacuated. Though in the hurry and confusion of writing the date is omitted, it is nevertheless a genuine letter verbatim.

"I TAKE up my pen, my dear friend, in the midst of noise and confusion, just to give you a short account of the delivery of this town to the Americans. Yesterday morning closed the melancholy scene.

"The evacuation and re-possession of Charles-town, rendered supremely melancholy an account of the unhappy loyalists, has been in other respects the most liberal of any transaction that has taken place since the commencement of the war. It was evacuated and entered by treaty; signals were agreed upon and adhered to; of course, every thing was conducted with the utmost decency and decorum. The embarkation lasted two days. I did not quit the town till the American horde made their appearance below the state-house. I then thought it high time to decamp.

"The inhabitants and merchants who thought proper to remain in town, were directed to keep within their houses; all stores and warehouses were shut up. The streets, formerly crowded and cheerful to the view, now presented one mournful scene of the most complicated wretchedness. I beheld unhappy loyalists, whom the British government, not many months before, had most solemnly pledged its faith to protect in their persons and properties, were now to be left victims to their merciless enemies, or to be sent on board vessels for the West-Indies, to encounter, with their distressed families, every misfortune, and to suffer every species of indignity and want in a strange land. Many, indeed, remained in the town, preferring the risk of immediate death to the cruel uncertainty of adhering any longer to a government, whose perfidy and treachery stands unparalleled in the annals of history. But by far the greater number, whose activity in the cause of their king and the British constitution, left no hopes for mercy, embarked. As these pait the windows of their friends and acquaintances, in their way to the places of embarkation, they gently, with grief unutterable, bowed their last farewell. This melancholy scene was returned with feelings that could only be expressed by tears and sobs. A gloomy despair sat on every countenance; and all was wretchedness and woe. The scene was too affecting for description, too great for human feelings. Even the most obdurate and unprincipled of your patriots, had he been present at this awful view, must have felt some remorse for the part he has acted, and lamented the fatalities he has painted on parliament as facts, and which have brought the most complicated misery and ruin on thousands and thousands, whose only crime has been loyalty to their king, and affection for their parent country.

"Throughout the whole of this transaction, though the most melancholy one I ever beheld, it must be observed, to the honour of the officer who commanded, that the whole has been conducted with the utmost attention and humanity, as far as it rested with him. Certain places were appointed for embarkation. Sentinels were fixed to prevent plunder being taken off by the soldiers and seamen. The vessels were all searched, and whatever plunder was found, was returned to the inhabitants of the town from whom it was taken."

Feb. 28. Vast quantities of shoes, linen, and woollens, are shipped on board the fleet bound to the West-Indies, and these, among various other articles, are intended for sale in America.

TO a people whose characteristic virtues are justice and fortitude, in the exercise of which they have become the wonder and astonishment of the universe, We, the black inhabitants of these United States, humbly submit the following address.

When Great-Britain essayed to make her first unjust and wicked attempts to forge chains to enslave America, the noble spirit of liberty and freedom uttered her voice. America, with the meekness of a lamb, remonstrated against the wickedness of the attempt; but Britain, lost to every sentiment of justice and virtue, and sunk in every vice, obstinately persisted in the rash attempt. America then, nobly animated with the love of liberty, affording the fortitude of a lion, stepped forth, and proclaimed, "WE WILL BE FREE." The world beheld with admiration mingled with applause, and heaven smiled approbation.

Determined in her resolutions, America has borne the forms and complicated pressures of an eight years war: purchased at the price of her blood and treasure, and even at the risk of her existence, she has at length obtained her liberty, the darling object of her soul; universal joy has diffused itself through all her borders; acclamations of gratitude on this occasion, from the lips of her every free-born son have ascended to the throne on high; the glorious deeds of America are recorded in the court of heaven.

When an address is made to men, who have been born free—to Americans, who have been alarmed, and nobly roused into virtuous activity at the first dawnings of slavery—to men whose hearts are warm—whose minds are expanded with the recent acquisition of their own liberty and freedom—to men whose actions and whose sufferings have been unparalleled in the annals of mankind. During a conflict of many years, to retain, and to transmit, without diminution, the rights of humanity and blessings of liberty to their posterity.—When an address, I say, is made to such men, by fellow creatures groaning under the chains of slavery and oppression, can we doubt of their becoming the friends and advocates of the enslaved and oppressed? Can we doubt of touching their feelings, and exciting their attention?—No—to doubt would be wickedness in the abstract—it would be flinging against the solemn declarations of a brave and virtuous people.

We have lately beheld, with anxious concern, your infant struggles in the glorious cause of liberty.—We attended to your solemn declaration of the rights of mankind—to your appeals, for the rectitude of your principles, to the Almighty, who regards men of every condition, and admits them to a participation of his benefits.—We admired your wisdom, justice, piety, and fortitude.

To that wisdom, justice, piety, and fortitude, which has led you to freedom and true greatness, we now appeal. Freedom is the object of our humble address.

Our abject state of slavery, a state of all others the most degrading to human nature, is known to every American: We shall not, therefore, descend to the disagreeable task of wounding the feelings of any by a description. In the language of your humble address to the inexorable throne of Britain, permit us humbly to address you. Liberty is our claim. Reverence for our Great Creator, principles of humanity, and the dictates of common sense, all convince us, that we have an indubitable right to liberty. Has not the wisdom of America solemnly declared it? Attend to your own declarations—"These truths are self-evident—all men are created equal; they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." We shall offer no arguments—nay, it would be insulting to the understanding of America in this enlightened period, to suppose the flood in need of arguments to prove our right to liberty. It would be to suppose she has already forgot those exalted principles she has so lately asserted with her blood.

Though our bodies differ in colour from yours; yet our souls are similar in a desire for freedom. Disparity in colour, we conceive, can never constitute a disparity in rights. Kealon is shocked at the absurdity! Humanity revolts at the idea!

Let America cease to exult—she has yet obtained but partial freedom. Thousands are yet groaning under their chains; slavery and oppression are not yet banished from this land; the appellation of master and slave, an appellation of all others the most degrading to humanity, have still an existence. We are slaves! To whom? Is it to abandoned Britons?—Permit us to refer you to facts; let them make the reply. A people who have fought—who have bled—who have purchased their own freedom by a sacrifice of their choicest heroes—will never continue the advocates for slavery.

Pride, insolence, interest, avarice, and maxims of false policy, have marked the conduct of Britain—but shall pride, insolence, confederations of interest, avarice, or maxims of false policy, lead America to a conduct inconsistent with her principles?—Forbid it Justice!—forbid it Wisdom!—forbid it sound Policy!—Every principle which has led America to freedom and greatness forbid it. Has the laws of Nature doomed us to this abject state—that out, as it were, from the benign influences of religion, knowledge, arts and science—excluded from every refinement which renders human nature happy! Reverence to our God forbids the impious thought! Why then are we held in slavery? Is it by any municipal laws? If so, YE (artisans of your country, friends of liberty and of mankind, behold our chains) lend an ear to the voice of oppression—committees the afflictions of a helpless and abused part of the human species. To you we look up for justice—deny it not—it is our right.

VOX PAUCANORUM.

May 9, 1783.

ALL persons having claims against the estate of John Amery, late of Charles county, deceased, by bond, are requested to bring them in properly authenticated, that they may be adjusted as far forth as may be. 1000 w 7/6 SAMUEL AMERY, administrator.

WALLACE, JOHNSON, & MUIR, Have for SALE,

At their store on the Head of the Dock, CHOICE Madeira wine, in pipes, hogsheads, and quarter casks, a few casks of excellent claret, sail cloth, and sundry other articles; which they will sell low, for cash, or on short credit.

May 8, 1783.

Will be SOLD, to the highest bidder, at George-town, on Thursday the 22d inst if fair, if not the next fair day, ABOUT twenty likely negroes, consisting of men, women, boys, and girls. Three months credit will be given.

BARNARD NEELY, WILLIAM DEAKIN, junr.

May 7, 1783.

To be SOLD for cash or tobacco, AN elegant PHAETON, on a new construction, very light and airy, crane-neck'd, &c. with complete harness for four horses, travelling trunks, &c. Also four beautiful bay horses, rising seven years old, two of them full blooded, the others two thirds blood; they go remarkably well in harness. The carriage and horses will be sold together or separate, as may suit the purchaser. Enquire of the proprietors, Prince-George's county, May 7.

Prince-George's county, May 7. BLACK PRINCE, STANDS at Schoolfield, and will cover for two pillows, and 2/6 the groom, the money to be sent with the mares. Pasturage at 3/9 per week, care will be taken, but accidents or escapes at the risk of the owners.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the above certificate given by Overton Carr, Esq; of Othello's blood, is just.

May 7, 1783.

EIGHT DOLLARS REWARD.

RAN away, about thirteen months ago, from the subscriber, living in Annapolis, a negro woman named JENNY, about forty years of age, but does not look so old, is well made, and rather tall, her dress cannot be described as she has a variety; she has been frequently seen in the neighbourhood of West river, where she lived some time in the late Mr. Pemberton's family, and at the plantations of the widow Pindell, Mr. Harwood, and Jere. Magruder, Esq; She was in company with a man of Mr. Gassaway Rawlrigs, who was lately taken and told those who took him that she was a free woman, and had been formerly the property of Mr. Pemberton, who set her free. Who ever takes and delivers her to me in Annapolis, shall receive the above reward, besides what the law allows.

W. BROWN.

THERE is at the plantation of Talbot Shipley, living near Simpson's tarer, on the great road that leads from Baltimore to Frederick, a bay mare and colt; the mare is about six years old, a bright bay, not branded, the left hind foot white, she is about fourteen hands high; the colt is two years old, not branded, is a roan, with black mane and tail. The owner may have them again on proving property and paying charges.

TAKEN up by James Clarke, living in Prince-George's county, near Queen-Anne, a black gelding, about fourteen hands high, one ear sore, shod all round, has a remarkable short tail, appears to be about nine years old, no purchasable brand. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.

April 21, 1783.

NOTICE is hereby given, that I intend to prefer a petition to the general assembly of Maryland, for an act to empower me to sell as much of the real estate of John Malcolm, late of Caroline county, deceased, as will enable me to pay and discharge the just debts of the aforesaid John Malcolm, of which intention all persons interested are desired to take notice.

B. SYLVESTER, administrator of John Malcolm.

The beautiful well bred horse ROEBUCK,

STANDS this season at the fabric use of dwelling plantations, in Charles county, about six miles from Benedict, and will cover at three guineas, if the money is paid by the first of October, or five hundred pounds of crop tobacco, if the money is not paid as above mentioned.

Roebuck is five years old next April, and was bred by Mr. Overton Carr, of Prince-George's county; he is a beautiful bay, highly formed, and full fifteen hands three inches high. Roebuck was got by Benjamin Dulany, Esquire, Othello, who was bred by col. Fitzhugh, of Chatham, and was got by Old Fearnought upon a thorough bred Morton's Traveller mare. Roebuck's dam was got by col. Tasker's Othello, who was got by Crab, his grand-dam by Morton's Traveller; his great grand-dam was col. Tasker's famous Selima, who was got by the Godolphin Arabian.

Good pasturage will be found for mares gratis, but will not be answerable for accidents or escapes.

WILLIAM M. WILKINSON.

I HEREBY certify, that the bay horse Roebuck, which I sold to Mr. William Wilkinson, of Charles county, is five years old this spring, and was got by Benjamin Dulany, Esquire, Othello, who was bred by William Fitzhugh, Esq; of Chatham, and got by Old Fearnought upon a thorough bred Morton's Traveller mare. Roebuck's dam was got by col. Tasker's Othello, who was got by Crab, his grand-dam by Morton's Traveller; his great-grand-dam was col. Tasker's Selima, who was got by the Godolphin Arabian.

THIS is to certify, that the above certificate given by Overton Carr, Esq; of Othello's blood, is just.

May 2, 1783. BENJAMIN DULANY.

Maryland, Cecil county, April 29, 1783. COMMITTED to my custody on suspicion of being a runaway, a young negro fellow, about 25 years of age, of a yellow complexion, pitted with the small pox, about 5 feet 6 inches high, he calls himself CHARLES SMITH, and says he is a free man and came into Virginia with lord Dunmore. His master, if any, is desired to come, prove property, pay charges, and take him away. RICHARD BOND, sheriff of Cecil county.

THERE is at the plantation of Joachim Braickly, living in West-Nottingham hundred, Cecil county, Maryland, a bay horse, four years old, about 14 hands high, a small star in his forehead, his hind feet white up to the pastern joint, his back much hurt with the saddle, branded S. G. on the near buttock, has no shoes. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.

To be sold on Tuesday the 27th of May, if fair, if not the next fair day, at Newington rope-walk,

A NUMBER of valuable negroes, viz. ropemakers and plantation men; the utensils belonging to the rope-walk; large scales and weights, such as are made use of in warehouses, and a few articles of household furniture. Twelve months credit will be given upon bond and security.

MARY MCCULLOCH, executrix, CHARLES STEUAR, executor, JAMES MULLOCH, executor, of James Dick, deceased.

ALL persons indebted to any of the late, or present, Publishers of this paper, are earnestly requested to settle their accounts, by bond, note, or payment.

FREDERICK GREEN.

A few Copies of the

L3 A W S, Past Session of Assembly, may be had at the Printing Office.

WANTED, A PERSON to attend in a Billiard Room. Any one, well recommended, will meet with Encouragement, by applying at the Coffee-house.

April 8, 1783.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a petition will be preferred to the general assembly, at their next session, on behalf of the subscriber, and his brothers Elias and William Harbin, for a law to make good and valid the will of our late father, relative to land bequeathed us.

GERARD HARBIN.