

On Tuesday last the General Assembly of this Province met here, when his Excellency HORATIO SHARPE, Esq; our Governor, opened the SESSION with the following SPEECH, viz.

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, SINCE the last Session of Assembly, I have received Letters from Sir WILLIAM JOHNSON, his Majesty's Superintendent of Indian Affairs in this District of NORTH AMERICA, relative to a Representation, which had been made to him, on Behalf of the MARYLAND Indians, some of whom, are, it seems, desirous to remove to Ojfwingo, and to be incorporated with the Six Nations, if they may be permitted to dispose of the Lands, which, by the Legislature of this Province, were heretofore appropriated to the Use of these Peoples Ancestors.

Together with Sir WILLIAM'S Letters, I shall communicate to you a Petition, that hath been presented to me, by several of those Indians, also the fullest Information I have been able to get, concerning their Number, and the Lands they occupy or claim, so that you may be the better able to judge what Compensation it will be reasonable to give them for their Rights, should you think fit to repeal the Laws, by which they are at present restrained from selling the Lands they possess.

As the Person who is authorized by Sir WILLIAM JOHNSON, as well as by the Indians, to act for them, on this Occasion, will wait here, for the result of your Deliberations, I must recommend this Business, in the first Place, to your Consideration.

Gentlemen,

The frequent Disputes, and great Confusion, occasioned in this Province, by the Loss of Boundaries, and the Variation of the Compaſs, are Matters well worthy your Notice: Some Remedy for so great an Evil is indisputably wanting, but it might perhaps be difficult to point out one adequate and unexceptionable: That a just and equitable Regard may be shewn to the Rights of all concerned, the utmost Caution and Foresight, as well as the strictest Impartiality, are requisite.

The Defects of our present Road-Laws are obvious and striking: You must be sensible what great Advantages would arise to the Community, from the Public Roads being made more direct, and kept constantly in good Repair; I hope, therefore, you will take this Matter likewise into Consideration.

I must also observe, to you, Gentlemen, that an accurate Review of the Criminal Laws made, or introduced here, seems to be highly expedient: When it becomes a Question, whether a Law is in Force, or not, a Tenderness towards Convicted Persons, they may not seem to deserve, usually takes Place, and, by that Circumstance, Encouragement is probably given to the Commission of Crimes. Let, therefore, some Criterion be established, so plain, and explicit, for determining what Criminal Laws are in Force here, that all Doubts, on this Head, may in future be prevented.

Gentlemen of both Houses,

The Proofs, I have, on all Occasions, endeavoured to give, of my Desire to promote the Welfare and Happiness of the People, over whom I have had the Honour to preside, make it, I hope, unnecessary for me, now, to assure you, that you will always find me ready to concur with you, in every proper Measure you can propose, for the Public Good.

Yesterday Mr. TURBUT WRIGHT, was chosen Clerk of the Lower House of Assembly, to which the Governor was pleased to signify his Approbation.

On Saturday last a Fire broke out in a Stable, belonging to Mrs. SARAH BRICE, of this City, which was soon consumed, together with sundry Materials, lodged therein, for carrying on a new Building. It happened by the Carelessness of a Negro, who had gone in with a lighted Pipe.

TO THE PRINTERS.

Please to give the following EPISTLE a place in your GAZETTE, and you will oblige,

A CUSTOMER.

To that most Valorous and Gallant Gentleman, who files himself A BYSTANDER, CRITIC, and CENSOR-GENERAL, and HEIR-EXPECTANT of some very considerable PREFERENCES in—UTOPIA.

MOST HEROIC SIR!

I BEG Leave, with all that Difference and Humility, which is due to so Great a Man, to approach and address you: And I flatter myself with the Hopes of an easier Admittance, and more kind Reception, as I honour and pay a peculiar Regard to all the Quantums and Qualies, both of your Body and Mind.

THE Attempts you have made, and the Feats you have done—The Politicks of your Style, and your uncommon Regard to our Laws, at the same Time that they excite my Astonishment, do also convince me that you are equally a Great Genius, and Good Citizen.—Your Courage, and your Resolution—Your Bickerings, and your Battles; but, above all, your Poetry and your Prose, have pointed you out to the Public Notice, and distinguished you as the most extraordinary Man that has hitherto appeared amongst us.

Your Courage, I am sensible, has been questioned by some, but the Futility of the Reflection is easily demonstrated, by challenging the most inveterate of your Adversaries, to say—Whether they ever saw your Back in the Field of Battle. No, Sir, your Blood has not yet been drawn; and, a Friend of mine says, 'tis Pity it ever should; tho' I cannot agree with him, when he adds, as the Reason of his Humanity—Because you are, all over, sore already. Besides, Sir, were Cowardice an Ingredient in your Composition, you might very handsomely have pleaded your Character, as a Protection from Fighting. Your Character, I say, as—as—as—rot it!—Why, ay, as a Bystander. But this you scorned; and, therefore, your Reputation for Courage stands fair and unfulfilled. Q. E. D.

How considerable, Sir, are your Antagonists?—And yet how cheap have your Victories been?—You have not deigned to hurl at them a single Lance of solid Sense, or sound Argument—You have done your Business with mere Scurrility and Abuse—You have not thrown away any of the keen Arrows of Wit and Humour; and the Explosion of the greatest Gun, you

have levelled at them, has not exceeded the CRACK OF A LOUSE.

Your Dexterity in shifting your Arms, and in evading the Point in Dispute, can never be too much applauded, or sufficiently admired. Whilst you attempted to wield the Weapons of Argument and Reason, Appearances were discouraging, and your Friends were really in Pain for you. But, by a more than ordinary Address, you altered your Method of Attack, threw your Antagonists into Confusion, and, in your Imagination, at least, obtained a compleat Victory by—Railing and Rhyming. Rhyming, Sir, is your Fort—Wield therefore that Weapon, and meddle not with Argument and Reason, lest you should be reduced to the same Distress with a certain Jesuit, who, when, in a religious Dispute, he found himself sore press'd by Reason, cry'd out, as vehemently as he could—O Reason! Reason! The Lord rebuke thee!

The ingenious Plain-Dealer, 'twas thought by some, had with so much Strength and Clearness confuted all your Assertions, and so manifestly detected and exposed your woble Conduct, that your Antagonists, looking upon the Controversy as ended, began to cry—Victory! But your Friends knew better, and were perswaded, that, should the other Side write an Hundred Papers, you would write an Hundred and One. In the very next Paper, you hint, Archibishop-like, at "the Blackness of his Mind and Face;" on which he disappeared, and has been no more heard of, either dreading your Satire, or disdaining your railing Rhymes. Be that as it will, he was silenced, and then

"A Fig for Plain Dealers, and eke for C. D."

When Clericus charged you with having forsaken the Controversy, and call'd you back to the Bar of the Public, and to the original Points in Dispute—How easily, by the Help of a few Rhymes, did you overlet him?—You held him out to Public View, "as a Dab-Chick waddling thro' the Mire."—In short, made him "look dull," and, indeed, as "black as Hell;" and then, with equal Justice and Politeness, inferred,

"With such a Varlet to contend, No Honour's won, and gain'd, no End."

Thus, Sir, did you, by the Help of Rhyming, not only ward off this Blow, but likewise gave poor Clericus a dreadful Overthrow.

But, worthy Sir, I would not be understood by commending your Rhymes, entirely to disparage your Prose. By no Means. Your Feats, even in that, are far from being inconsiderable.

When C. D. called upon you to be explicit upon the Subject of Pluralities, your Answer (tho' a borrowed one) is admirable:—"What; upon Compulsion, HAL? If Reason were as thick as Blackberries, I would not give one upon Compulsion." Very right, Sir,—Stick but to this Blackberry Way of Reasoning, and to your borrowed and abusive Rhymes, and the Public Voice will for ever pronounce you—UNANSWERABLE. And here, as to the Charge of Borrowing, I confess, I think it makes rather for you, than against you. It is a plain Proof that you are yet in Credit, which many, very many, I assure you, thought to be intirely ruined some Time ago.

C. D. tells us, your Assertion is, that "Pluralities are tenable"—but how? 'Tis plain you must have meant, either de Facto, or de Jure. Now, that they are tenable, de Facto, you are as willing to prove, as C. D. could wish. Nay, I am perswaded, Sir, and think I may venture to assure him, in your Name, that if he will but agree to your holding Pluralities de Facto, you will not enter into a Controversy with him, about holding them de Jure.

After all, I think it is to little Purpose (supposing you equal to the Task) to reason with your Antagonists on this Subject. For you may as soon storm a Castle by Logic, or persuade a Church-Cormorant to part with his Pluralities, as to convince them. The better Way is, to pelt them with Rhymes, and to "frighten" them with "ugly Statutes concerning the Supremacy," and with "ugly Consequences," not of Reason, but of Interest. The Consequence of which may be, that tho' it should not make you a Friend to the "Supremacy," it may yet make the "Supremacy" a Friend to you.

How good and commendable was it in the Principal, Sir, to ask "the Consent of the Veltries," not "in Compliance" with the Law, but as it should seem, "with the Prejudices of the People?" How noble and generous was it in him to "resign," and give up to these same "Prejudices of the People," what he could not hold by Law?

Change we now the Prospect, and take a View of C. D.'s Conduct. And here—What hideous Forms appear? Que Scelerum facies? What horrid Scenes of Guilt?—He, wicked Man, was a V-str-m-n, and a C—r! This was very bad. He opposed, in the former Capacity, the Principal—He would not comply with "the Prejudices" of that extraordinary Gentleman, nor consent that he should hold TWO PARISHES, against a positive Law of the Province. This was much worse. In short, he could not violate his Conscience, even to serve his Principal. This was worst of all! And now, let the impartial PUBLIC judge—Does not C. D. deserve to be severely lash'd for all this? Are any Names too bad, any Colours too black for him and his Friends? Does not their Conduct abundantly justify you (the Principal's better Half) in pronouncing your Adversaries in general, and C. D. in particular "Dunces and Blackguards"? And how justly does the "Public Voice" allow you to have written "like a Scholar and a Gentleman?" How, indeed, can it do Justice to such "a Scholar," and to such "a Gentleman?" And how earnestly do I wish to see such "a Scholar," and such "a Gentleman" rewarded according to his Merits?

"Hoc juvat; et meli est; non mentiar:

A grateful Sound, and pleasing to the Ear."

A few friendly Advices shall now release you.—Suffer not yourself to be intoxicated, or grow giddy, by basking in the Sunshine of the "Public Voice." There is a Distemper, called by the Grecian Physicians, Abelleria, the Malignity of which, affects a Man in this Manner, viz. That the nearer to Danger he is, it makes him fancy himself in so much the greater Safety. Beware of this Distemper.—Never attempt to reason with your Adversaries, nor at all meddle with the Point in Dispute.—You may steer clear of it, by Railing and

Rhyming, or at least, by pretending "Compulsion." You may, indeed, at Times, walk up to the Point, but be sure presently to quit it. This will be an Argument of your Prudence; and that will recommend you to the "Public Voice," which, whenever you attain it, will give you great Pleasure. Once more, keep close of the Point in Dispute, and curse CLERICUS, by Book, and Candle.—Beware, I say, beware of the Dis'emper call'd Abelleria. But I have said enough, to convince you, how much I am,

Wonderful SIR!

Yours,

TOM FOX

WILLIAMSBURG, MAY 12, 1781. PROPOSALS FOR PRINTING A REVISAL of all the LAWS now in Force in VIRGINIA, From the first Settlement of the Colony, to the present Time. CONDITIONS.

- I. They will be printed on a good Paper, and new Type.
II. They will make a Volume in Folio, of about 600 Pages.
III. The Book will be neatly bound and lettered.
IV. The Price to Subscribers will be FORTY SHILLINGS, to be paid on the Delivery of the Book.
Those Gentlemen who intend to subscribe, are requested to leave their Names at the MARYLAND COFFEE-HOUSE.

WILLIAM RIND.

To be sold by Public SALE, at the Coffee-House, in the City of Annapolis, on Friday the Third Day of June next, at Twelve o'Clock, by virtue of a Power of Attorney, from Robert Payne, of the Borough of Hellstone, in the County of Cornwall, in the Kingdom of England, Brother and Heir at Law of George Payne, late of Anne Arundel County, Deceased.

TWO Parcels of LAND lying on the Branches of South-River, one containing One Hundred and Fifty Acres, Part of Howard's and Porter's Range, and the other Twenty-Six Acres, Part of the Land called Harford, being the Lands whereon the said George Payne dwelt. The Title of the Land, and the Subscribers Power to sell, may be seen and known by applying to him, at Annapolis, any Time before the Sale. THOMAS RINGGOLD.

JUST IMPORTED,

In the Sally, Capt. Thomas Smith, from London, and to be sold by the Subscriber, at his STORE, near the Market-House, in Annapolis, very cheap, for Sterling Cash, Current-Money, or short Credit.

AN Assortment of EUROPEAN and EAST-INDIA GOODS, suitable to Summer and Winter Seasons. Also, to be sold, Coffee, Chocolate, Raisins, Loaf and Brown Sugars, &c. &c. PHILIP HAMMOND.

To be SOLD cheap, by the Subscriber, at his Store in Annapolis, an Assortment of Dry Goods, suitable for the Season, among which are the following, viz.

CHANGEABLE and plain Mantua, Ell wide French Persians, white Sarinet, black Sattin, and Taffeties, white and black Blond and Thread Lace, Book Mussin, a great Variety of beautiful Silk Gauze, Carbricks, flower'd and plain Lawn, striped and flower'd bordered Lawn, and Gauze Handkerchiefs, rich Canton Furniture Damask, plain and flower'd Silk and Capuchins, Silk, Silk and Worsted, Cotton, and Thread Hosiery, crimson, pink, scarlet, black, blue, yellow, and green Sattin Shoes, at 15s. per Pair, fine Calamanco Shoes, Women and Mens Leather dress Ivory and Bone Fans, striped Gingham, and Damask, Masquerado Poplin, and other Stuffs, Irish Linen, Rags and Irish Sheeting, brown and white Dowlas, Checks and Linen Stripes, figured Dimity, 10-4 beautiful Damask Table Cloths, several Pieces of the newest Chintzes, printed Linens, Cottons, and Callicees, &c. Superfine, and low priced Humbugs, Mullins, Calamancoes, Durants, Tammisses, Diaper, Sagathies, Fustians, crimson and black Breeches Patterns, from 10s. to 12s. each, brown and striped Hollands, Threads of all Sorts, Cotton Thread, sewing Silk and Mohair, black Silk Handkerchiefs, and Lungee Romals, Pickbeck Shoe and Knee Buckles, broad and narrow Hosiery, Chest Locks, Clock Hinges, Curtain Rings, brass Nails for Chairs, brass Warming Dishes, enamelled Calens, with Silver Tops, Window Glass, fresh Lemons by the Chest, or 3/9 per Dozen, and a great Variety of other Articles not enumerated here.

THOMAS B. HODGKIN.

A L S O,

Excellent Green Tea, in Canisters, at 3s. per Pound. Bohea ditto at 5s. London double refined Sugar at 2s. single ditto at 1/2, Coffee at 1/4, Chocolate, Cinnamon, Mace, Nutmeg, Ginger, Allspice, Soap, genuine Spermaceti Candles, Hartshorn Shavings, Indico Blue, Pearl Barley, and Muscovado Sugar, by the Barrel or smaller Quantity.

L I K E W I S E,

A Collection of fresh and choice Patent Medicines, among which are, Turlington's genuine Balsam of Life, Bateman's Drops, British Oil, Godfrey's Cordial, Duff's Elixir, Stoughton's Stomach Elixir, Anderson's Pills, Lockyer's Pills, Dr. James's Fever Powders, Elixir Bardana, highly recommended for Cure of the Rheumatism and Gout, at 6s. per Bottle, Balsam of Honey, remarkable for Cure of Consumptions, Colds, Coughs, and all Complaints of the Breast, at the moderate Price of 6s. per Bottle, Sugar Plumbs, for destroying Worms in Men, Women, and Children, Walker's Jesuits Drops, famous for the Cure of all Weaknesses of the Reins, Gravel, and various other Complaints; Glauber's and Epsom Salts, Powder of Jesuits Bark, Iunglaft, Nipple Glasses, &c. &c.

PUBLIC Notice to the public to sell and dispose of John Stone Harwin (27)

THE MISSISSIPPI at Stafford C of July 1768. (47)

JUST In the Sally, Capt. sold by the Sub very cheap, for GREAT VARI

GOODS, which are several complete, with Strand Twine: A Rum, Molasses, and Brown Sugar.

JUST And to be SOLD at a very low Price for which a real

LUMPING A principally Irish Linens, White Dowlas, Checks Printed Linen, Lawn bordered Cotton, Scots Plaid Mens Saddles, with Mens and Women coarse Woollens, & prime Cost.

To be Sold, on Thursday, by the Subscriber, Frederick County, derick-Town, for change,

THREE Hundred LAND, where under a good Fence Trees; a round Log new Barn, and several to mention: The Land timbered; and made, Part of which with Timothy-Seed on the main Road a Square Log Dwell Feet by 20, with Fire Brick Chimnies; a new Stone Dwelling 30 by 20; One Store Place, with a Brick Log Stables; a Stone Frame Weave Shop on; a Blacksmith's House adjoining it, Roof, with Two Floors now carried on by Dwelling-House, 24 in the Middle, and containing about Hoafe, and several Tract of Land, good, and is midd thereon. The above well for Two Settles Ground being suitable 222 Acres, watered and middling cleared, and under Dwelling-House. be set up altogether the Purchasers. Six Half the Purchase of aforesaid Land, on quired.

To be SOLD, ABOUT Two now lying on immediately in the ped and Stabbed. at Hungre River, or Kent County.

WHEREAS C—, has Reports, too scandalous which, he asserts, Pounds is offer'd, and, as I am well known, and have been in my offer a Reward of that will prove, I have them of the Value of

COMMITTED Runaways. N Eye, a likely young HARRISON, of Virginia WILLIAM CLAY 6 Inches high, a we of Age, has on his olor's Apparel: He is to be a Freg Man by Town. Their Master and pay Charges, or directs. (27) WIL