

B O S T O N, July 9.

Extra of a Letter from London, May 3.

"A Motion was made by Mr. Powdall to inquire into the present State of the Disturbances in Boston, and particularly into the Circumstances of the Commissions of the Commanders in Chief, and the Governors of the respective Provinces, which at present clash, by contradictory giving to both the Supremacy of Command; After much Debate, Administration altered the House that every proper Step had been taken by his Majesty to reconcile the Differences subsisting there, which obviously arose from this Defect in the Commissions. Col. Barre, Agent for the Province, offered his Services to the Government in this Affair; and the whole was treated with much Indifference. A Motion was made at Ten o'clock to adjourn, which was carried, and put a final End to the Debate; so that it seems certain that no further Notice will be taken of the Proceeding. Captain Preiton's Account was looked upon as the most authentic of any yet transpired, though his Safety was esteemed very precarious."

July 12. In the Ship Juno, Captain Constant Freeman, arrived here since our last, from Bristol, came Passenger Captain Andrew Gardner, who was sent by this Town last March with Dispatches concerning the horrid Massacre the 5th of that Month: It is said that Captain Gardner's Arrival in England with the Narrative and Depositions from hence, was very timely: That thereupon the Ships and Troops, mentioned lately in this and the other Papers, to be coming here, were stopped.—Captain Gardner was introduced by Mr. Trecotick to a Number of the Members of Parliament, who inquired of him what Knowledge he had of the Affair; and as he lived near where the Affair began at the Rope-Walks, and was in King-Street when the Massacre happened, he related the whole in a very particular Manner. He brought Letters to the Committee from Governor Pownall, Mr. Trecotick, Mr. Bolland, Mrs. Macaulay, &c. A Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town was called on Tuesday, at Fenwick-Hall; when the said Letters were read; after which a Committee was chosen to inquire into the Transactions since the 5th of March; to counteract the Designs of those inveterate Enemies among us, who, there is Reason to think, are still continuing their Misrepresentations, and are using their Endeavours to increase the present unhappy Misunderstanding between Great-Britain and her Colonies.—The Meeting was adjourned till To-morrow, to receive the Report of the Committee.

Captain Gardner left London the 11th of May; and it was then thought the Duty on Tea would not be taken off.

July 16 Captain Lambert last Week arrived at Salem from the West Indies, informs, that on the preceding Saturday he spoke with the Packet bound for New-York, off St. George's Bank, and learnt from her that the Act imposing Duties on Paper, Tea, &c. was totally repealed on the 25th of May.

Last Week a Mail Ship arrived at Casco-Bay from London: She left the Downs the 21st May, but has brought no public Prints. The Master informs, that before he left London he was told the Act laying a Duty on Tea would be repealed this Session of Parliament.

ANNAPOLIS, AUGUST 2.

T O T H E P R I N T E R S.

Prince George's County.

THE Observation, that no one is ridiculous for being what they really are, but for their affecting to be something more, has been extremely well verified in your Paper, by a sibilical Scribbler, the Inhabitant on the Patowmack Waters. That eld-pated Invader of the Rights and Liberties of the People has endeavoured, by his low Chicanery, false Distinctions, and not 'til now heard of new Laws, to rob us of a Right, which, I will venture to assert, has always been enjoyed indiscriminately by the People of all Nations; I mean the Right of catching Fish, and curing them on the Shores of the Rivers respectively belonging to the Kingdoms to which the People were Subjects; yet that most ingenious Writer has undertaken to exclude his Countrymen of that most common Right, by wickedly and insolently, I do not know whether I ought not to have said reasonably, insinuating, that the People of this Province and the People of England are not Subjects of the same Kingdom; for it is very deducible from his own Arguments, that he must think so, it being the only Circumstance that could deprive us of so common a Right. I should be glad to know of what Country or Kingdom it is that he is a Subject, because it is certain, if he is not a Subject of the Kingdoms of England and Ireland, he himself can have no Right to fish, unless he has a special Grant for that Purpose; for the Charter, in my Opinion, has taken Care of none else; for which very Reason I am induced to make this Enquiry.—Perhaps he or some of his Associates won't take the Oaths to the Government, and therefore conclude they are not Subjects; aye, that must be the very Reason.—His other extraordinary Reasons are; that the Fishery is now become an advantageous Business (a special selfish Reason no Doubt) and that some of his Countrymen pull down Corn Field Fences, and lay their Plantations open to Destruction, in the very Height of Cropping: this I know to be mere Fiction, because I well know the Fish Buyers are obliged to be on good Behaviour, otherwise they are sure to get no Fish.—But suppose that much to be true, will any Man of common Sense hence infer, that A, who commits no Trespas, shall not partake of a Right he has always enjoyed in common with the rest of his Fellow-Subjects, because his Countryman B has no Sense of Honour? May it not with equal Justice be contended, that C should not ride about his Business upon the high Road, because D and F will take near

No Doubt there are Laws in all Countries for regulating their Fisheries, but I never heard of one to prevent the People fishing.

Paths and go through inclosed Ground? Are not the Cases exactly similar?—But if Argumentation and sound Reasoning is to be confuted by Scurrility and Abuse, we may at once give up every Right we have to the Man in the Waters; for, to give every one their due, I must say there are but few, very few I believe, can vie with him in what is called Low-Life; for Detraction and Billingsgate, which is common at the fishing Landings, appear to be his first Accomplishments, but such elsewhere unrivalled Qualifications will never pass for Reason and sound Judgment in the Forest.—I will here advise, that whenever a mercenary Wretch is thus caught, preferring his own Interest to that of the Publick, he ought most vigilantly to be watched; for we cannot be too zealous in the Support of our Rights, nor bar too securely every Gate to keep out Tyranny and Oppression, it being an allowed of settled Maxim, that, when a House is beset by Robbers, and one Thief enters, it is vain and idle to attempt to keep out the rest.—That very subdulous Writer has likewise insinuated, that this Dispute is nothing more than a private Dispute; that it in no wise concerns the People collectively; that it only affects a few Fishermen.—But our Reason is not to be thus trifled with; we are not to be lulled to sleep by any such low Artifice.—As the Fishery has hitherto been carried on, the People have always had the Alternative of either buying or fishing themselves; which puts it entirely out of the Fishermen's Power of exacting an exorbitant Price. But would that he the Case, if that Right was given up, and irrecoverably fixed in the Hands of a few?—It may perhaps be said, in Answer to this, that the Fishermen cannot force us to buy; for which Reason it will be at the Peoples Choice, whether they pay extravagantly or not.—No Doubt it will be just such another Choice as the Man in a starving Condition had, of either paying an extravagant Price for his Dinner or perishing.—In short, the Case is just this; Necessity will always force us to buy—and were the People here once secluded from that, 'til now, indisputable Right, we should soon see the Inhabitants of Britain (who I am sure would find it well worth their While) pursuing that Business, if not by themselves, they would by their Agents or Attornies, and would thereby drain the Province of what little Gold and Silver we have among us. For all which Reasons I am persuaded, the People will not spare their Purse in Support of so valuable a Right.—I should have communicated my Thoughts on this Subject sooner, had I not waited to see what could be said in Answer to the Fisherman. I am yours, &c.

A FORESTER.

T O T H E P R I N T E R S.

July 20, 1770.

I DID not think to trouble you with printing, or the Publick with reading, any more of my weak Performances; but that this Stickler for fishing Liberty may not think that his conclusive Question in his last Piece has convinced me that I am mistaken in my Opinion, I shall just make a Reply to his last, and have done with him.

This fishing Patriot does not seem very fond of asking or answering Questions; however I shall begin with asking him, From whence it is that the People of this Province in general derive that inherent Right of invading other Mens Properties? Has it been from the Indulgence and Good-Nature of the Proprietors of Lands, bordering on the Waters of the different Rivers in this Province, in suffering them to pass through their Plantations, and haul Seines at their Landings, that they now claim and set up an inherent Right, to deprive the Proprietors of the Use of their own Landings? If this be the Consequence of good-natured Actions, a Man ought to be very careful how he performs any good-natured Act whatever, lest that not only the Person whom he obliges, but his Descendants for Ages to come, should ever after claim a Repetition of those good-natured Acts, as an inherent Right.

Good Things in themselves are sometimes made use of to serve very bad Purposes, and I hardly know a more glaring Instance of it, than the Fisherman's Recital of the Resolutions entered into by the Congress at New-York, and the Assembly of this Province; those truly worthy Friends to Liberty little thought, that those Resolutions would ever be made use of, as a Cloak to cover the mean narrow Views of one-Set of People, to invade the Properties of another Set, and deprive them of a Right that is inherent to them from the Situation of their Lands and Livings. It was a real hereditary constitutional Right that induced those Gentlemen to enter into those Resolutions, in Defence of their own and other Mens Rights in America; by which they obtained Popularity that is really commendable. But an Attempt to gain Popularity by raising one Set of People on the Ruin of another, is a most despicable Disposition.

But now for the Fisherman's Question, "Whether a Person's coming from Great-Britain to inhabit in this Province is a Forfeiture of any Right he at any Time before had here, in Conjunction with his Fellow-Subjects there?" To this I answer, that a Change of Situation very often occasions a Change of Circumstances: For Instance, while a Person resides in England, he is an English or British Subject, and has an inherent constitutional Right with his Fellow-Subjects there, of taxing themselves, by their own Representatives; and while he continues an English Subject, no Doubt would have a Right, under that saving Clause in the Charter, to catch Fish in the Bays, Rivers and Creeks, and salt and dry them on the Shores of this Province—but when he removes from thence, and settles in Maryland, he then becomes an American Subject, and an Inhabitant and Resident of this Province, and therefore is no more comprehended in that saving Clause of the Charter, but has an inherent constitutional Right with the other American Subjects here, derived to them from the Tenor of their Charters, of taxing themselves by their own Representatives.—It was the Right of Taxation that occasioned those Resolutions to be formed by the Congress at New-York and the Assembly of this Pro-

vince, as well as many others similar to them, by other very worthy Members and Friends to Liberty in several other Governments on this Continent; Resolutions which I sincerely wish, in Honour to the truly worthy Friends to Liberty that formed them, may be handed down as a Precedent to Posterity to the End of Time.

It was not the Right of fishing, or one Man's trespassing on the Property of another, which is no more to be compared to the true Spirit and Design of those Resolutions than Night to Day, or Shade to the Substance. They were formed in Defence and Support of the exclusive Right the American Subjects have, to lay internal Taxes on themselves, or of being taxed by their own Representatives only.

The Difference between an English or British Subject, and an American Subject is a Distinction I should think every true Friend to American Liberty would endeavour to support and keep up, and more especially as there have been such Steps taken by the Ministry to load us with Taxes, and deprive us of our Charter Rights and Liberties.

I do not know whether this Creature has any Thing of the "amphibious" Nature in him or not; but it is certain he is of a very changeable Disposition, as he sometimes calls himself a Friend to Liberty, and at other Times a Fisherman. I believe he scarcely knows himself what he is, and therefore will no more be thought worthy of the Notice of An Inhabitant bordering on the Waters of

PATOWMACK.

T O T H E P R I N T E R S.

Please to give a Place in your Paper to the following Answer to a most scandalous Piece in your last, attacking our Characters in the most virulent Manner, to which it is no Wonder they were ashamed to set their Names.

"First take the Beam out of thine own Eye, that thou mayest see clearly, &c. &c."

GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE,

WHEN you enquired the Price we sold Tea at, you was answered Ten Shillings per Pound, and that we had but very little left; and though you then charged us with a Breach of the Association, we think you cannot make that appear, as Tea had, before that Time, been sold at Ten Shillings per Pound, in many different Parts of this Province, without being noticed, and in other Parts by Consent of their Committee; if we are culpable, so are many others, and even some of the Committee themselves.

Now, Mr. Attorney, I should be glad to know who gave you this daring and unprecedented Authority, to interrogate and try to extort from Joseph Williams the Colt, and how much Advance we sold the Tea at, which you was told was bought in the Country? Pray Sir had you any Commission from my Lord Chancellor for to doing? I do aver, the Association gave you no such Power; and I might, with as good Authority as you, have demanded of you an exact and true List of all the extraordinary Fees you have taken from your several Clients, whether Five, Twenty or Fifty Pistoles, over and above what the Law allows you; and I should expect my Answer would be your Came over my Head. His very proper Answer, that you had no Right to ask such Questions, saved him from being ridiculed as a Fool in his own Business, by every Merchant in the Province. Mr. Attorney, lay your Hand on your Mouth.—I here may be some fit and good Men in our Committee; but I wonder they should associate in Committee Affairs with Two or Three other Pettifoggers, whose principal Accomplishments consist in depreciating, and if possible murdering, others Characters, under a false Pretence of being thining Patriots of their Country, and if possible would drive all Strangers away, that so they might oblige the Publick to pay their own Prices. These little spirited Souls have frequently been firing their Squibs and Small-shot, without the least Provocation or any Return from us; and now they are pleased, with what they would have the Publick believe a most egregious Breach of the Association, and a sufficient Provocation, to give us a Broad-side from their Ground Tire. We believe your Charge is (happy for us) quite lost, but are no less obliged to you, than if it had made a wide Breach in the Wall: We caution you to take Care of the Rebound.

Our extensive Acquaintance in the many trading Parts of Europe, as well as in America, puts it in our Power to serve the Publick on the very best Terms, indeed too well for some of your Interest: Your Deficiency in these Points excite your Envy and fret your very Souls, and from this Fountain springs all your Venom. We believe we can say with Safety, that we have increased the Trade of this City; say the Publick if these Things are not true; and say some of your little Souls, our Enemies, if you have not sold considerably more Goods by Virtue of our established Friends and Acquaintance from the Eastern Shore, of many Years Standing, who are following us with their kind Orders for Goods to this Place.

We now appeal to all the unprejudiced Inhabitants of this City in particular, and the Publick in general, and ask them, if we have not served them with Goods, on as good Terms, and as fairly, justly, and honestly, as any other Merchant in this Province? We further request the Publick in general to say; whether they have ever found us to be those infamous, base, treacherous, faithless, fordid, or infamously inclined Persons, as those Committee Gentlemen have been pleased to represent us? And whether our Characters are deserving to be murdered in this most villainous Manner? We trust there are some good Samaritans both in this City and Country.

Since the Good Intent's Cargo was sent back, several other Cargoes of Goods have arrived here, and have been suffered to be landed, and many of those Goods imported, contrary to the Association, though we believe some have been shipped contrary to the Merchants Orders, and this Committee as yet have never published any of their Proceedings relating thereto, nor the Merchants Names that received those Goods, though there is Reason to believe some of them are sold: But they were very careful to publish our Names, in a Day or

two after they had appeared that we had of the Association. others Characters, the higher Advance than Patriots, who some 25 per Cent. higher of the Scarcity at that count, that we can be Packages of Goods, or Ships, and landed Night. Be assured, notorious Partialities you could devise for the Association of this Province.

Where will you strenuously inclined Association, that will succeed, when others der your Noses with plain Truth will turn who attack our Char long ago, and now you exert your utmost on us. In the above your own Conscience; and though our have concealed your neither afraid nor

THOMAS CH

THE Commission Office will be opened of £ 15165 Sterling Thirty Days Sight, in London, on the 1st of the Act of admitting Bills of Credit mentioned.

To be sold at PUBL

TRACT or Purchase, containing Hundred Acres, lying Property of Mr. Benjamin the Benefit of his Credit Sale to be on the Pre Forenoon.

The said Rut on the Head of South Annapolis, with a very Quarter, Garden, Trees of all Sorts, good Tobacco House high and pleasant, and very fit for a Gentle Plantation Six adjacent with the Plantation to be entered on, by

THE Managers of for purchasing House thereon, for the Congregation, hereby great Success they Tickets in the First enabled to have drawn pointed, but on a Re the Printer had omitted are liable to a Deduct of the Scheme; and as Disputes, they have Drawing of the First of September next, in to the Proprietors of any Person should have position that they are are at Liberty to return the Drawing begins, the Deduction in the N. B. There are a may be had of any

THE Subscriber can make all can grind and polish, sons who have any Th to leave their Orders Annapolis, and depend in the nearest Mann quickest Dispatch, by

RAN away from the Ridge, Maryland on the 27th June last, JOSEPH DOBBINS, fair Complexion, a Shoulders, about 5 Feet pleasant Countenance, curled Hair: Had a Hat stitched round the Trowsers, white Fearn made Shoes. Whoever and secures him in any again, shall receive a and if brought home,

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