

to give him some Money to go out of the Province; he being told that he ought to ask his, the said Allen's, Pardon before Two or Three Gentlemen, he replied, his Spirit was too high; and being told that he ought to tell who put him on, he said, for that he never would tell; but said, that if he could by any Means get out of the Province, he would not appear at the next Provincial Court, or at any other Time: That the said Deponent asked him if he had received any Money; he said no; but added, that if he told him he would tell it again. And further this Deponent saith, that the said David Atchison was very pressing on him to speak to Mr. Allen for him, and seemed, both last Night and this Morning, much concerned for what he had done.

The above Contents the said Deponent acquainted Mr. Allen of, this Morning, having no Opportunity last Night to acquaint him of it.

JOHN DANIEL JAQUET.

Sworn to Sept. 20, 1770, before ROB. COUDEN.

OBSERVATIONS on the above DEPOSITIONS.

DAVID ATCHISON, an indentured Servant, from Ireland, was bought by me at Lesburg, in Virginia, in August 1769.

The Conversation on which Atchison founds his Deposition is alleged to have been in the September following. An abrupt Proposal, without any previous Sounding, without any Examination into his Disposition or Principles, to assassinate a Counsellor, and one of the first Officers in the Province, is said to have been made to an unknown Vagrant, upon a Trial of only a Month or Six Weeks Service, and never mentioned again, either before or afterwards. What Confidence in his Fidelity, what Security for his Silence, what Proofs of his Attachment could be had on so short a Probation? What Folly, or rather Madness, would it have been to have entrusted with a Man under such Circumstances, a Secret, on which, not only Mr. W. D's, but my own Life depended? Is it credible that any Person could be so regardless of his own Quiet or Safety? And ought not Atchison to have been the last Man in the World to whom such a Commission should have been given, which from that Moment would have made him the Master rather than the Servant?

The Time he refers the Conversation to is, after I had set out from Frederick County to go to Annapolis, about Ten Days before the Races that were at Annapolis in September 1769. It appears from the Livery-Stable Account that I did not arrive at Annapolis till the 13th Day of October, so that I could not be supposed to be on the Road from Frederick County to Annapolis any Time in September; and the Races began the 13th Day of October, so that no Date in September could come within Ten Days of them. Atchison rumbles at the Threshold. He might at least have been correct in the Time, if he had had the Matter as much at Heart as he pretends, for a whole Year before; and if Precision were not insisted on in an Accusation of this Consequence, no Man could be safe, because it is impossible to prove a Negative; but by Circumstances.

If an Accusation be not made as soon as an Opportunity offers; it always is held as a strong Presumption of the Innocence of the Party accused; but Atchison had many Opportunities. He deposes the Conversation to have been in September: I did not quit Annapolis till November the 15th; here was Latitude enough for unburthening his Conscience, which always operates most forcibly on my Return to Annapolis the 24th of last March, where I stayed till the 30th; and a third offered on my coming here the 3d of May, where I remained till the 17th. After neglecting to make an immediate Discovery, and to use the several subsequent Opportunities, a Plea of Conscience now, after a Year is elapsed, for laying this Information can only be looked upon as a horrid Prostitution of that sacred Word to the vilest Purposes. It is probable he conceived this wicked Scheme some Time before he put it in execution. He drops some dark Hints to Mr. Bruce in June 1770; but this was not till after he grew uneasy in his Service, after he ran away and was retaken, after he used every possible Means to shake off his Indentures, and at the very Time that he applied to Mr. Chase for that Purpose.

The Manner in which the Dispute was carried on between Mr. W. D. and myself is too notorious to need Repetition; I have long since forgiven and forgot it. A final Suspension of Hostilities was agreed on, by the Mediation of Mr. John Hammond, in November 1768. He was present at the last Encounter we had, and conducted Mr. W. D. home. He came afterwards to my House, and said he was commissioned by Mr. W. D. to inform me, that if I had not attacked him then, he would not have attacked me, and for the future, if no Attack should be made on my Side, none should be on his. These Words I stated in a Hand-Bill I publish'd at that Time, and promised, under my Hand, to accede to the Proposal. This Truce had been rigidly kept on my Side, even in Intention; it must be very extraordinary therefore, that so horrid a Thought as that of Assassination should arise after so long a Suspension of Animosity.

The Tale itself, as stated by Atchison, is too absurd to need Refutation. And further this Deponent saith, that the said Allen told him he would soon know him (Mr. Dulany meaning) after he got to Town, and that he would give this Deponent a Pistol, and that if he, this Deponent, would shoot him (Dulany meaning) the said Allen would give this Deponent his Freedom, and Money to carry him off. And he goes on, that the said Allen told the said Deponent, that if he should be catch'd, he, the said Allen, was so intimate, and in Favour with the Governor, that the said Allen would get him a Reprieve; and that the said Allen never mentioned it to him again; and further said that a Villain who could not invent a more plausible Tale deserves no Reprieve.

A vagrant Stranger is directed to come to Annapolis to discover, by Intuition, a Gentleman he never saw before, whose Christian Name is not mentioned, or Person described, to take a Pistol, shoot one of the first

Men in Government, within the Town, and escape; Does this tell well? How is he to escape from an Alarm that would be immediate, and preclude every Possibility of flying? If he is caught he is to have a Pardon. If my Favour with the Governor were ever so powerful, I have too good an Opinion of his Virtue and Policy to suppose he could pardon a Crime of so black a Die. Was his Freedom, and a small Sum of Money to carry him off, an adequate Reward for such a Risk? Was not the Attempt dangerous in the Execution, and apparently fatal to the Consequences? Could the Probability of a Pardon, even supposing it attainable, be a sufficient Inducement to a Man to run the Risk of being charged? In a Word, would not a Pardon have been impracticable, or, after all, an Appeal for Death against the Criminal? It appears then, that no Consideration was offered equivalent to the Hazard of the Attempt, or Punishment of the Crime.

But when we consider that the Mediation between Mr. W. D. and myself was made in November 1768: that the Application to Atchison was, as he says, in September 1769, and the publick Discovery not till September 1770: That no Consequences ever flowed from it; no Overt-act against Mr. W. D's Safety; no Hints, no Apprehensions of Danger from any Quarrel; how groundless and chimerical must be the present suppositions! The Matter, if designed, would have been most naturally carried into Execution between November 1768, and September 1769, whilst Reconciliations were warm, and Animositities fresh; and the supposed Mention of it in September 1769; and its lying dead ever since, shows no very murderous Intention.

Through this vile Attempt is chiefly owing to Atchison's Love of Liberty; yet it more immediately blazed out in a Quarrel that happened the Day before he made the Deposition, in Mrs. Middleton's Family. He was very insolent to Mrs. Middleton and the Servants, and came and complained to me that they insulted him. I heard he had said some very scandalous Things of me, and took him finally to talk about it. I called him a Rascal, and said he made Disturbances in every Family he was in. He was very angry I would not adopt his Cause, and mortified at a Circumstance I had charged him with: That Day, in a Fit of Passion, he made the Deposition. I hope the Candid will hear his other Tales with the same Reserve they read his Deposition. He has a Talent of blackening Peoples Characters, by which he has often deceived me, and will be more likely to deceive a Stranger.

John Daniel Jaquet, the Second Deponent, is Mrs. Middleton's Clerk. He some Time since wrote in the Comminary's Office, and Mr. Valute gives him the Character of a very honest young Man, of whom I made Inquiry before I accepted his Deposition in my Favour. Atchison's Contrition for what he had done, his Shame, his Desire of Pardon, and more particularly, his pressing for his Discharge, leave not the least Doubt that to gain that was the Ground of his Action. His Insinuation that he was set on, and even bribed, is as wicked as it is an artful Palliation of his Offence; and it is very probable, that had I condescended to treat with him, I might have got a Deposition to that Effect. Jaquet had different Conversations with Atchison after he was sworn, in all which he expressed the greatest Sorrow and Concern, and added, that if I had sold him to a Man at the Warm Springs, who would have given me some Land for the Security of the Money, or to a Gentleman who proposed buying him here, he never would have laid such an Accusation. He could not go further without running the Risk of losing his Ears, by his own Confession.

The Law, in this Case, is however hard, I am bound in a Recognizance of 200 l. with a Security of 100 l. to appear to answer the Accusation of an indentured Servant at the next Provincial Court, who is let loose on his own Recognizance, and who, by flying, may escape the Punishment which the direct Perjury, that of a Servant against his Master, deserves.

This Country is unfortunately circumstanced in regard to Servants; the most abandoned of the human Species are poured in upon us, who, uneasy under Confinement, averse to Labour, and impatient to revisit their native Country, and resume the Practice of those Vices they are precluded the Use of here, are capable of any Attempt to shake off the Yoke. The Back Woods was too remote a Scene of Action for a Lad of Atchison's Abilities, and rather than return there he scrupled not to attempt the Ruin of his Master, and perjured himself. When to the Abhorrence of Servitude, is added the Disgrace of a Runaway, few Masters would, I fear, be safe, if their Life and Character depended on such an Evidence. How easily by such a Villain the smallest Hints of Dislike may be construed into a hostile Intention, or the Preparation for Defence, into the Instruments of Assassination; I leave to the Justice of Mankind to determine.

Though I do not intend anticipating the Judgment of the Publick, yet I thought it necessary, to obviate those violent Prejudices which first Impressions make, and which is more particularly necessary on Account of the Character with which I am invested. As I respect the Opinion of the World in general, and have made it my particular Study to cultivate the Good-will and Affection of all my loving Friends; of every Denomination, in Frederick County, not, I flatter myself, without some Success, I hope that the Temple of Peace and Concord, which I have been working up for a whole Year, in the Minds of my Parishioners, will not be overturned in a Moment, by the Blast of so absurd, improbable, self-interested an Accusation.

BENNET ALLEN.

THE DEPOSITION of the Reverend Bennet Allen, Rector of All-Saints Parish, in Frederick County, Maryland, who being duly sworn, deposes and saith, That whereas his Servant, David Atchison, hath deposed, that the said Allen made a Proposal to him, in September 1769, that the said Allen would give him a Pistol, and told him, if (Atchison) would shoot a certain Mr. Dulany, after he came to Town, to Annapolis (whom he would soon know) the said Allen would give him his Freedom, and Money to carry him off: That Atchison made

Answer and said, did the said Allen think he, Atchison, was such a Fool as to shoot any Man in cool-Blood: That he had never done him any Harm: That he had always behaved gently; and did he, the said Allen, think he would do such a Thing to get himself hung: That he told the said Allen he would not do it for all the Money the said Allen was worth in the World, and desired he would not mention it to him again: And further, that the said Allen told Atchison, that if he should be catch'd, he, the said Allen, was so intimate, and in Favour with the Governor, that the said Allen would get him a Reprieve.

The Deponent, the said Bennet Allen, saith, that the above recited Deposition is an absolute Falshood: That he never did hold such Conversation, at any Time with Atchison: That he never did offer him a Pistol to shoot any Mr. Dulany: That he never promised him his Freedom and Money to carry him off for so doing: That his Replies, in Vindication of his own Character, is a mere Invention of his own: That the Deponent never promised to get him the Governor's Reprieve; and that the whole, as recited above, is false, from the Beginning to the End of it.

BENNET ALLEN.

Sept. 26, 1770, sworn to before R. COUDEN.

By the Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justice. NOTICE is hereby given, that the Committee will meet at the Hour of Three o'Clock in the Afternoon during this Session in the Stadt-Houfe, in order to hear all such Matters as properly lie before them.

Signed per Order, RALPH DOBINSON, Clerk.

THE Subscriber hereby acquaints the Publick, that he continues to teach, at his School at Elk-Ridge Landing, the following Branches of Learning, at the most reasonable Rates; viz.

The English, Latin, and French Languages; Writing; vulgar, decimal, artificial (or logarithmical) and instrumental Arithmetick; Geometry, or Mensuration of Plains and Solids, by Decimals, Logarithms, and by Scale and Compasses; Trigonometry, exemplified, and applied to Problems in Plain Sailing and Surveying, &c. &c. His Method in general is this: While the Boys are learning the first Rudiments and Principles of the Latin Tongue, he at the same Time exercises them in Writing and Arithmetick; after they have attained to the first Principles of the Latin, he then enters them into the French; and thus, by varying their Studies, renders the whole rather a Pleasure and Diversion than the contrary: And after they have attained to a sufficient Knowledge in the common Rules of Arithmetick, Extraction of Roots, &c. he then enters them into Geometry, and so on to the other Branches (keeping them at the same Time to the Latin, French, &c.) And for the Encouragement of such Gentlemen as are willing to promote a School at this Place, he intends immediately to open a Night School, from Six to Nine o'Clock, for the teaching of Arithmetick, and other Branches of the Mathematicks; and to continue the same 'til the first Day of March next, without any Increase of Charge (for such as attend a Day-School) any more than a proportionable Part of the Expence for Wood and Candles. He also expects by the Spring Ships a Pair of Globes, and (if they come to Hand without Damage) he then intends to instruct such of his Pupils (whose Knowledge in Trigonometry may render them capable of it) in the Use of them; which will be an agreeable, profitable, and Gentleman-like Employment.

He would willingly flatter himself, that his Plan will be generally approved of; but nevertheless, Directions from any Gentleman respecting his own Children shall be carefully attended to, and the utmost Endeavour shall be used to give Satisfaction in the Case of such Children as shall be committed to the Tuition of Their most humble Servant,

JOHN CHISHOLM.

N. B. There are several very good Houses at the Place, where any Number of Children may be boarded at the most reasonable Rates.

WHEREAS a certain Alexander Morton left Scotland about Two Years ago, and has since taken his abode in Maryland, as I am informed; this is to give Notice, that the said Morton's Friends have wrote to the Subscriber, living near Piscataway, to make proper Inquiry for to find out his Place of Residence: and have deposited in my Hands a Letter for him, which I should be obliged to him to make Application for. WILLIAM WEBSTER, Sen.

THREE POUNDS REWARD.

RAN away Yesterday from the Subscribers, living near Annapolis, an Irish indentured Servant Man, named PATRICK DOWLING, a Shoemaker by Trade, 25 Years old, about 5 Feet 6 Inches high, well made, of a brown Complexion, has black Hair, large Beard, pitted with the Small-Pox, and is marked in his right Arm with Gunpowder, P D I S, with some other Marks which cannot be described: Had on, a new Felt Hat, old Bearskin Coat, Osnabrig Shirt and Trowsers, and it is supposed he has a Pair of old Shoes, and a large Knife. Whoever takes up, and secures said Servant, so that his Masters get him again, shall receive, if taken above Ten Miles from home, Forty Shillings, and if out of the Province, the above Reward, and reasonable Charges, if brought home, paid by

CALEB BURGESS, JOHN WORTHINGTONN, junr.

September 14, 1770. RAN away, the 26th of August last, from the Subscriber, living near the Head of Rock Creek, Frederick County, Maryland, an Irish Servant Man, named ISAAH THOMSON; about 38 Years of Age, 5 Feet 8 Inches high, a broad well set Fellow, short brown curled Hair, has had the Small Pox; is slow of Speech, and will endeavour to pass for a Sailor or Soldier: Had on and took with him, Two Check Shirts, brown Roll Trowsers, old Shoes, One Pair of Leather Breeches, One blue Pea Jacket, One striped Flannel ditto, and One old Casser Hat. It is supposed he will endeavour to pass to Philadelphia. He has said that he is Proprietor of 100 Acres of Land in Pennsylvania Government, and has Two Brothers living there. Whoever will secure said Servant, so that his Master may have him again, shall receive a Reward of Three Pounds current Money, and if pursued, and taken out of this Province, Twenty Dollars, paid by

RECTOR MAGRUDER.

September 25, 1770. LEFT with the Subscriber, some Time in April last, a Clinch-work Boat, with about Four Fathom of Rope for a Painter; she is almost new, and was taken in the Bay with Two runaway Servants in her. Whoever may own her are requested to come and prove their Property, pay Charges, and take her away, or she will be sold in One Month from this Date, by

WILLIAM GORDON.

September 25, 1770. THE Schooner RESOLUTION, now lying in the Dock, a fine new Vessel, of about 100 and 10 Tuns Burthen, with all her Rigging, Tackle, and Apparel. The Vessel may be viewed, and Terms known, by applying to the Owner on board.

CAPEWELL KEENE.

COMMITTED to Anne-Arundel County Jail, as a Runaway, a Salt-Water Negro, can speak no English. His Master is desired to take him away and pay Charges.

JOHN CLAPHAM, Sheriff.

THERE is at the Plantation of Samuel Howard, near Annapolis, taken up as a Stray, a small black HORSE, about 12 Hands and a half high, 9 Years old, trots and gallops, has a white Spot on his Forehead, is branded on the off Buttock T, and has the Spavin. The Owner may have him again, on proving Property and paying Charges.

HUDSON and THOMPSON.

For LONDON, and will sail in Three Weeks. THE Ship HUDSON, now lying at Fell's-Point, has Room for about One Hundred and Eighty Hogheads of Tobacco, which will be taken in at a low Freight, with Liberty of Confignment. For Particulars apply to

CHARLES-TOWN RACES.

To be run for, over the Course at Charles-Town, on Thursday the 18th of October next. PURSE of Twenty Pounds, free for any Horse, Mare, or Gelding, the best Two of Three Two Mile Heats, carrying Weight for Blood and Age, agreeable to the Philadelphia Rules. On Friday, a Purse of Ten Pounds, free for any Horse, Mare, or Gelding (the winning Horse the preceding Day excepted) the best Two of Three Two Mile Heats, carrying Weight as above. Paying 30 Shillings Entrance the First Day, and 15 the second Day. No jockeying to be allowed. Proper Judges to be appointed. To start precisely at Two o'Clock.

TO ENTER with Mr. Thomas Elliott, on Tuesday the 16th of October, or double at the Post.

TO CHARTER.

THE SNOW ADERTON, which will carry about Four Hundred Hogheads of Tobacco, is arrived in St. Mary's, and ready to take in her Loading. Any Gentleman wanting such a Vessel may know the Terms by applying to the Subscriber, living near Port-Tobacco, Frederick County, Maryland.

HERE ADERTON.

September 4, 1770. A LUMPING Parcel of GOODS, which will be sold cheap, for Bills, Cash, or Tobacco, on Patowmack, in Maryland, consisting of Goods well assorted, within the Affociation of Maryland, to the Amount of Four Hundred and Thirteen Pounds first Cost. For Terms apply to the Subscriber at Bladenburg.

ANDREW LEITCH.

TO THE PUBLICK. September 15, 1770. AT the Maryland Factory, lately established in Frederick-Town, Flax and Hemp are dressed; double and single Linen Wheels, Check Reels, Cotton and Woollen Wheels, are made after the most approved Manner; Weaving of all Sorts, done with Care and Expedition; Sleas or Reeds for Weavers, and Looms, are made according to the best Model; and all at very moderate Prices: Undressed Flax or Yarn, of any Kind, will be taken as ready Money for any Work done at the Factory.