

elves with their happy delusion; though he would ask every unprejudiced mind, whether the success of Mr. Townsend was owing to ministerial influence, or the unhappy differences among those whom the people at large look up to as patriots? Had Townsend, Sawbridge, and Oliver, not deserted the publick cause, ministerial tools would not have triumphed in the coffee-houses, that the friends of the people cannot support themselves against the arbitrary mandates of the court.

Nov. 6. An extraordinary divorce is like to take place not far from Grosvenor-Square. Two females of fashion, who professed the highest friendship for each other, and who were almost inseparable (the one a widow, the other a wife) being one night as an assembly, the wife complained to her friend, she feared her husband was inconstant to her; the friend advised her not to fill her head with such fancies. The wife went home, but her husband not returning all night, she arose early and flew to her friend to communicate her surprise; the milk-woman being at the door, and the maid engaged in talk with her, she walked in without ceremony, and up stairs she went, where, to her great surpris, she found her husband in bed with her friend.

Nov. 7. The following account is given of the seizure of the papers and person of the Prince de Conti, which has made great noise at Paris. The Prince de Conti having been suspected by the court, to have favoured several seditious papers lately published against the Ministry, and to have caused them to be privately printed, at a press he had erected in the verge of the Temple, where he holds his court at Paris; the Chancellor Maupeau obtained a letter de cachet, which he caused to be issued October the 23d. In consequence of this arret, the palace of the Prince was environed at midnight by the musqueteers, and other guards. They first secured the manuscripts and printed papers: These were instantly deposited in the hands of Mons. de Sartine, the lieutenant of the police. The Abbe Quillet (the supposed author of the different publications) together with the printers, were then seized and conducted to the Bastille. During the confusion one of the Prince's postillions found means to escape, and made the best of his way to L'Isle d'Adam, a country seat belonging to the Prince de Conti (where he then was) and acquainted him with what was transacting at his palace. The Prince, greatly astonished at the intelligence, immediately set off for Paris; but his Highness found his person no more sacred than his house, his papers, or his secrets. The minister Maupeau, secured the Prince also: and the great and noble asserter and protector of the liberties of his country has been immured like a common felon. What will be the consequence of this atrocious stretch of power in the Chancellor, time only can disclose; but the populace is so exasperated, that some dreadful effects are to be expected. The other Princes of the blood were so alarmed at this daring attack of the minister, on so respectable a part of their body, that they went from their palaces in Paris to the country with the utmost precipitation, in the opinion of many, in a manner very unworthy their high births and stations.

The following letter has been sent to the Lord Mayor elect, and published in a paper of this morning.

"My Lord, according to my oath, as a freeman of London, I think it my duty to inform your Lordship, that a mob is preparing to insult you, and the city of London, in your procession on Monday next: It is provided by that person in Westminster, who is usually employed by Mr. Wilkes for that purpose; and is composed chiefly of persons in the purloins of that neighbourhood. If your Lordship will please to direct a note as mentioned in a private letter to yourself, signed ***, you shall be furnished with the name of the employer. My servant, my Lord, has been applied to, and will upon oath inform you of particulars.

I am, my Lord,
An honest Freeman of London.

Nov. 10. Yesterday forenoon, at half past eleven o'clock, the new Lord Mayor, the old Lord Mayor, Alderman Stephenson, Crosby, Sawbridge, Bull, Plomer, the two Sheriffs, the Common Serjeant, the two City Council, and other city officers, went from Guildhall, the Mercers and Merchant Tailors companies marching before them, with music playing, and colours flying, to Queenhithe, where they took water to go up to Westminster: On their way thither, they were attended by the several city companies in their respective barges, adorned with pendants and streamers. After having walked all round the hall and saluted the courts, &c. they went to the Exchequer bar, where the Lord Mayor took the oaths, &c. and having recorded warrants of attorney in the proper courts, returned by water to Blackfriars, and from thence, in their coaches, to Guildhall, where a magnificent entertainment was provided.

ANNAPOLIS, JANUARY 21.

On the 30th ultimo died at his House near Cambridge, the Rev. Daniel Manadier, Rector of Great Choptank Parish in Dorchester County.

Letters by the November Packet, bring the agreeable News of the safe Arrival of the Ship Annapolis, Thomas Edes, Esq; Commander, with whom went Passengers the Hon. Mrs. Edes, her Children, and Major William Fleming of the 64th Regiment.

TO THE CITIZENS OF ANNAPOLIS.

GENTLEMEN,
SOMETIMES divert myself with reading the political performances that are published in the Maryland Gazette under the head of Annapolis news; and particularly pleased should a genius

step forth that has something out of the common road.—Such I take the author of the Dialogue to be that has been lately published between two Citizens.—Whoever he is, from his manner of writing it appears to me he speaks in the person of the second Citizen; it would not have been altogether consistent with modesty to have ranked himself in the very first class.

Let us then examine some of the articles of his political creed, so far as he has thought proper to disclose his sentiments on publick affairs; and as he professes himself an enemy to all false compliment, he will hardly take it amiss to be treated with freedom.

He would have us believe that he is at nought the opinion published relative to the Act for the Establishment of religious Worship, treats it with contempt by calling it the golden calf, and the opinionist King Jeroboam—the people who pay any regard to it of course Jeroboam's deluded followers.—After having openly avowed his religious tenets, he chooses not to pass over the Forty per-poll or the Proclamation in silence, but intimates that if the opinions of eminent Lawyers from home on a full and fair state of the case could be produced in their favour, such opinions ought to be of great weight if not decisive. This I must own is not altogether consistent with my ideas of Liberty; I should be under some concern to see the time when the opinions of the greatest Lawyers in England were to govern this province. If such opinions could be produced, I am one of those wrongheaded fellows, that would pay no more regard to them than reason required. The truth is, we must take care of our own rights and liberties in the Plantations, and not expect any decisions very favourable to either on states of the case or appeals home, though Lord C—n himself were to give the rule.

If we want the opinions of eminent Lawyers and Statesmen on the subject of Proclamations, we shall probably find them about that period of time when the liberties of the People were in danger, under the reign of Princes of that unfortunate House, who on more occasions than one attempted to set up their Proclamations as the Law of the Land.

Not to make the commentary equal in length to the text, let us hasten forward to that paragraph where the second Citizen seems to have exerted the utmost force of his eloquence, beginning with—alas Sir! and ending with an appeal to Heaven, gracious Powers, is not this a monstrous contradiction?

This I take to be the quintessence of the whole. From this substantial part of the Dialogue it may be collected, that the second Citizen disapproves of the conduct of the Lower House; and loads the leading Representatives and great Speakers for having rejected a regulation offered upon such advantageous terms as the most sanguine and staunch friend of the People never dreamed of: a convincing proof to me, that he is so far from being open to conviction, that he has either heard only one side of the question, or is blinded by prejudice. For impartial men well acquainted with the disputes between the two Houses think there are fees that ought to be corrected and explained at least if not curtailed—and that the abuses which have appeared in the manner of charging ought to be prevented, and that now or never is the time for doing it. I am not going to write a panegyric on the conduct of the Lower House, nor will I descend so low as to call names and quarrel with the Officers: those Gentlemen 'tis to be hoped when they come to reflect calmly on what so nearly concerns their interest will agree to alter what may be found liable to just objection.

Let me ask you now, Do you from your hearts approve the sentiments of the second Citizen? Do you think him a determined friend to Liberty without favour to Government? If you do, and the author should hereafter discover himself, you may send him as one of your Representatives in Assembly at next election. He has one thing to recommend him to your notice, if you think it praise-worthy, i. e. his opinion is directly opposite to that of the far greater part of those who have been heretofore entrusted to serve their country.

As to the train the second Citizen supposes to be laid at the opening of every session to blow up the House into a combustion and throw every thing into anarchy and confusion, I am not enough acquainted

• The paragraph meant stands thus in the original Dialogue: Alas Sir! ill must it fare with the popular interests, when the Leading Representatives, and Great Speakers, instead of making amends to their country, by some master stroke of wise policy, for having rejected a regulation offered upon such advantageous terms, as the most sanguine and staunch friend of the people, never dreamed of; still rush on in their destructive career, laying their trains at each outset of publick business, to blow up every thing into a combustion, in order, that the rage and delusion of the present, may support and sanctify the mischiefs of the preceding session; whilst the publick Debt, without purchasing any benefits, is swelling to an enormous size, on the Journals, our staple falling into disgrace in foreign markets; and every man's property in a degree, decreasing and mouldering away. Friends to the Constitution, whilst they are stretching every sinew to confound all the publick counsels, and thereby, destroy every good effect of that Constitution. Gracious Powers! Is not this a monstrous contradiction?

with the hearts of men to say whether there be any such designs formed or not; charity however induces me to believe otherwise. The genuine fire of patriotism and the honest indignation that will sometimes glow in the breast of a true lover of his country may be misconstrued by men warm in support of a party; and very unjustly imputed to base artifice and design. The searcher of all hearts is best acquainted with the secret springs of human actions; to him I leave the determination of a point that can be fully known only to himself.

The second Citizen is very severe in lashing all those Candidates who have heretofore made their bows at Court and been disappointed; and after threatening what he could do breaks off abruptly with an If —

I would have him speak out and let us know every thing he has left unsaid relative to the behaviour of those who offer their service to the people. The blank may as well be filled up now when there is room in the papers as at any other time.

The dose of wormwood he has administered to a young Gentleman who, I presume, stands in his way to popularity, was intended for a bitter pill; he is represented as a raw and vain young man, unhappily engaged in a family quarrel, of which some confederated band of politicians have availed themselves to answer their own purposes. This one would have thought could hardly have entered into the heart of a religious Merchant intent on his own affairs, who had lived to see many years pass over his head and was well acquainted with men and manners. What then is the foundation and groundwork of all these insinuations? I answer 'tis evident to me that the second Citizen or his friend is struggling hard to obtain your voices at the next election for the city. On the one side then you have as he alleges youth and simplicity, on the other age, and as I think, rooted prejudice. Were this the case I should be clear in my judgment which to prefer; because the one may improve; from the other no such thing can be expected.

But now without praising him too much, let us suppose that this young Gentleman has had a liberal education, has seen something of the ways of the world, has an independent fortune, and may be animated by the example of a parent who was in his day a friend to Liberty. Let us suppose that the author may have turned to his own account by misrepresentation a family quarrel that might not have arisen from diversity of sentiment in politics, but was kindled by disputes of a quite different nature, which are now amicably ended. If this should be the case there would be no room for comparison.

Suppose farther with me, my fellow-citizens, that this aged Merchant should be no other than a man we all know very well; suppose him at all times closely attached to his own circle of acquaintance; and satisfied in his judgment that the Upper House agreed to every thing they ought relative to the Inspection Law. Suppose him urged on by his disapprobation of the conduct of the Lower House, and the flattering applauses of a few that think as he does on publick affairs, to offer himself a Candidate at the next election for this city; and finding all his other efforts like to end in smoke, suppose him to have taken it into his head to publish a Dialogue remarkable amongst other things for its prolixity and part of the song of Chevy Chase therein contained. Suppose all this, and let me ask you this serious question, What good purpose can it answer to send such a man to represent us in Assembly? He could never be of any great weight or consequence there. If his good understanding, of which it must be allowed he has a large share, should prompt him to make a motion of real utility to his country; numbers would hesitate to divide on his side of the question, because they would suspect him of being under the influence of others. In short, sending such a person to the House of Assembly with the sentiments he has professed would be doing him an injury. He would soon find himself out of his element, and desirous of getting away to his own select band of friends.

Let us then in the name of Common Sense, leave him there to plume himself on mercantile merit, and get fully acquainted with the old table of fees and the manner of charging under it. Whilst we with one voice declare that we are not to be diverted from the true point in question, although fifty more such Dialogues should be published; but are determined that neither Officers, nor Clergy, nor Lawyers shall, by our consent, ride triumphant in the spoils of the people of this Province.

AN INDEPENDENT FREEMAN.

MR. PRINTER,
THE dialogue, which you were so obliging as to publish in your Gazette, of the 7th Instant, has, it seems, inflamed the curiosity of your fellow-citizens, to an inordinate degree. Numberless excursions have been made into the field of conjecture, touching the editor, who is supposed, and on very good grounds, to be the same with him who overheard the conversation, which is committed to paper.—Stratagems, after much profound debate, have been devised to ensure the gratification of that universal passion of being in the secret. And many, after suffering repeated discomfures in their efforts to discover my person, have