

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1773.

LATER and Co. Carpenters, opposite the new Building on the Dock, of acquainting the Publick, that they are carrying on the various Branches of Carriages and Wheels of all Kinds... Polt-Chariots, Curricles, Sulky Chaises; also Waggon, Carriage, and on the neatest Construction; and Wheels of all Kinds painted in the best Manner.

to honour them with their Commendation, that a speedy Execution of their Business will entitle them to some Measure recommend them to the Publick; and they pledge for Neatness and Elegance, they are able to excel any of the in Annapolis. w6

of Traff from Captain William the Benefit of his Creditors, day the 1st of August next, by pub- House of Mrs. Chilton, in Balti- e and well known Tract of Land in, said to contain near 800 patented for 602 Acres. There is cleared, being the poorest Part on is built, a framed Dwelling- Feet, with Brick Chimnies, hay- elow and Three above, a Kitchen, -House on a Spring, Hen-House, es and Barn, and an exceeding rd, about 40 Acres of Meadow under middling Fence; Part ked Marsh, the Rest white Oak ards of 100 Acres more may be l abounds with Locust, Maple, white Oak, and is conveniently ore County, upon Bush River, 4 own and Joppa, and 22 from Bal- ere is a good Fishery, particularly Season, and plenty of wild Fowl. contain plenty of Iron Ore, from is convenient to many Furnaces, landing. Twelve Months Credit the Purchaser, and if any inclinable y, they may know the Terms, Mr. James Christie, Merchant, in and Capt. William Richards will wives to show the Land.

ICK TONRY, Method to inform the Publick, s opened Tavern in a neat commo- that purpose, situated in East-Street, ow Mr. James Brice's new House, very convenient to the Dock; and ded himself with a good Stock of accommodations for Travellers, as and Provender for Horses, those please to favour him with their com- on his utmost Endeavours to give

poses also, for the Convenience of at Annapolis and Baltimore-Town, to ges, to begin the Second Week in carry Passengers to and from said following Manner, viz. To set out om his said House, on every Mon- y and Friday, precisely at Half after n the Morning, will stop One Hour dodd's about Half Way to Baltimore, proceed to Capt. Limes's in Balti- return from said Limes's for Annapolis Thursday and Saturday Morning, ck, will wait for any Passengers to Kelso's Tavern at the Ferry, and to otself's, where John M'Donnell lately a thence to said Tonry's House in An- as also at Capt. Limes's, a Person will let Seats to Passengers at 10s. each to Annapolis, and the like Sum from Baltimore. Outside Passengers or any en Years of Age at Half Price. Seats applied for. Small Parcels will be Annapolis to Baltimore and from Balti- at reasonable Rates.

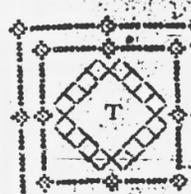
ony will purchase a Quantity of Rye ley at 4s. per Bushel, if delivered at Annapolis, where may be had good Wholesale or Retail, at reasonable 8w

FOR SALE, ses and Lots in which Flatly dwell, on the Court-House Circle in the is; they are all well inclosed with s. the Houses are mostly new and in pair; they will be sold for a long Cre- d; the Terms may be known by ap-

REUBEN MERIWETHER. House and Lots are so advantageously so well known, that I think a minute them needless.

N and SON.

"Our places are disposed of to men, that are the orna- ments of their own dignity, to men that have the welfare of the kingdom bubbly at heart; and who accept of offices only to do the necessary drudgery of the state, and neither to amass estates from their ser- vices, nor aggrandize any branches of their family: hence it happens, that England can never be infamous for a Sejanus, who rose from the dung-hill to grasp all power, and whose working wickedness had generally a double plot, upon his prince, and upon the peo- ple." True Briton, No. 38.



HE prince, who places an un- limited confidence in a bad minister, runs great hazard of having that confidence abused, his government made odious, and his people wretched: of the many instances, which might be brought to confirm the ob- servation, none more instruct- ive, can perhaps be selected from the annals of mankind, than the story of Sejanus. We need not however have recourse to the history of other nations, and of other ages, to prove, that the unbounded influence of a wicked minister, is sure to lead his master into many difficulties, and to involve the people in much distress; the present situation of this province is a proof of both.

It is not my intention to compare Antilon with Sejanus; yet whoever has the curiosity to read the character of the latter drawn by the masterly pen of Tacitus, and is well acquainted with the former, will discover some striking likenesses between the two.—The (A) "animus sui obsequii, in alios crimator"—The "juxta adulatione & superbia" are equally applicable to both.

Does it yet remain a secret, who this wicked minis- ter, this Antilon, is? Are ye, my countrymen, "paz- zled to find him out?" Surely not; his practices have occasioned too much mischief, to suffer him to lurk concealed, notwithstanding all his mean, and dirty arts, to gain popularity, by which he rose to his present greatness, and the indefatigable industry of his tools, in echoing his praises, and celebrating the reli- gious of his measures.

In vindication of his conduct; Antilon has not en- deavoured to convince the minds of his readers by the force of reason, but "in the favourite method of illiberal calumny, virulent abuse, and shameful asseveration to affect their passions"—has attempted to render his an- tagonist ridiculous, contemptible; and odious; he has descended, to the lowest jells: on the person of the Citiz- en, has expressed the utmost contempt of his under- standing, and a strong suspicion of his political, and religious principles.—What connexion; Antilon, have the latter with the proclamation? Attempts to rouse popular prejudices, and to turn the laugh against an adver- sary, discover the weakness of a cause, or the inability of the advocate, who employs ridicule, instead of argument.—The Citizen's patriotism is entirely signed; his reasons must not be considered, or listened to; be- cause his religious principles are not to be trusted.—Yet if we are to credit Antilon, the Citizen is so little at- tached to those principles, "That he is not devoutly wishing for the event," which is to free him from their shackles. What my speculative notions of religion may be, this is neither the place, nor time to de- clare; my political principles ought only to be ques- tioned on the present occasion; surely they are constitu- tional, and have met, I hope, with the approbation of my countrymen; if so, Antilon's aspersions will give me no uneasiness. He asks—Who is this Citizen?—A man; Antilon, of an independent fortune, one deeply interested in the prosperity of his country: a friend to liberty, a settled enemy to lawless prerogative; I am accused of folly, and falsehood, of gar- bled moral, and legal maxims, of a narrow, sordid, and personal enmity; of the first, and second accusa- tions, I leave the publick judge; observing only, that my want of veracity has not been proved in a single instance.—What moral, what legal maxims have I garbled? Point them out Antilon; you assert that my censures of your conduct flow from a narrow, sordid, and personal enmity; that I dislike your vices, is most true; that my enmity is rancorous, and sordid, I deny; you have made the charge, it is incumbent on you to prove it; should you fail in your proofs, admit you must, on your own principles, that you have ex- hibited the strongest tokens of a base mind; but what is evident to all, can receive no additional confirma- tion from your admission. Take this as an answer, the only one I shall give, to all your obloquy and ab- use.—That vituperari ab improbo summa est laus. The bad man's censures are the highest commendations.

(A) "A mind dark and unsearchable, prone to blacken others, alike sawning and imperious." If the Latin word adulatione implies that Sejanus was fond of flattery, and inclined to flattery, the sentence is still more applicable to our wicked minister, who is known to swallow greedily the fulsome and nauseous praises of his ad- mirers; and to bear a great deal of daubing.

If it be irksome to be engaged against a writer of a weak head, and corrupt heart, the task becomes infinitely more disgusting, when we have to encounter not only the latter vice, but likewise the wilful misre- presentations of craft, and falsehoods dictated by "shameless impudence." It will be shewn in the course of this paper that Antilon is guilty of both charges.

The assentment of ship-money, the Citizen has said, was a more open, the proclamation a more disguised, though not less dangerous attack on liberty; it has, I hope, been proved already, that fees are taxes, and that the settlement of them by proclamation is arbi- trary, and illegal: Antilon has not refuted the argu- ments adduced to prove both propositions; other rea- sons in support thereof shall be brought hereafter; at present let us consider whether the proclamation be not a disguised, and dangerous attack on liberty. If we attend to the time, circumstance, and real motive of issuing the proclamation, they will, I think, evince, beyond all doubt, the truth of the assertion. The proclamation came out a few days after the proroga- tion of the assembly, under the colour of preventing extortion, but in reality to ascertain what fees should be taken from the people by the officers, and after a disagreement between the two houses about a regula- tion of fees by law. It would have been too insolent, to have informed the people in plain terms; your rep- resentatives would not come into our proposals; the governor was therefore advised to issue the proclama- tion for the settlement of fees, adopting the very rates of the late regulation objected to by your delegates, as unjust, and oppressive in several instances; their obli- gation, and unreasonable refusal to comply with our moderate demands, constrained us to recur to that expedient. It would I say have been too daring, to have talked openly in this manner, and too silly, to have avowed, that, to cover the dangerous tendency of the proclamation, it was cloaked with the specious, and pretended necessity of protecting the people from the rapacity of officers. This affected tenderness for the people, considering the character of the minister, who made a parade of it, and has since assigned it as the best excuse of an unconstitutional measure, was suffi- cient to awake suspicion, and fears. Our constitution is founded on jealousy, and suspicion; its true spirit, and full vigour cannot be preserved without the most watchful care, and strictest vigilance of the representa- tives over the conduct of administration. This doc- trine is not mine, it has been advanced, and demon- strated by the best constitutional writers; the present measures call for our closest attention to it; the latent designs of our crafty minister will be best detected by comparing them with the open, and avowed declara- tions of government in 1739, on a contest exactly simi- lar to the present. The pursuits of government in the enlargement of its powers, and its encroachments on liberty, are steady, patient, uniform, and gradual; if checked by a well concerted opposition at one time, and laid aside, they will be again renewed by some succeeding minister, at a more favourable juncture.

Extract from the votes and proceedings of the assembly 1739.

"The conferees of the upper house are commanded to acquaint the conferees of the lower house, that they conceive the proprietary's authority to settle fees, where there is no positive law for that purpose, to be indisputable, and that they apprehend the ex- ercise of such an authority to be agreeable to the se- veral instructions from the throne to the respective governments, and therefore that the upper house cannot but think a perpetual law in this case, rea- sonable and necessary, &c."

Compare, my countrymen, the proclamation issued in 1739 with the present; compare the language of the conferees of the upper house in 1739, with Antilon's arguments, and vindication of his favourite scheme; in substance they are the same. Antilon's account of ship-money, I have admitted in the main to be true, though not intirely impartial; this sentence conveys no insinuation, but what is plain, and easily justified. A writer may give a relation of facts generally true, yet by suppressing some circumstances, may either ex- aggerate, or diminish the guilt of them, and by so do- ing, greatly alter their character and complexion. The justice of the remark will hardly be denied, and the application of it to the present case will evince its utility. Antilon has vented part of his spleen on Mr. Hume, the censured passage is taken from that au- thor, acknowledged by a sensible writer, (B) and thro- ugh whig, to be an instructing, and entertaining his- torian. To exculpate the notorious apologist, and my- self, it is necessary to observe that the words "levied with justice, and equality" (not equity as cited by An- tilon) mean, the tax was equally divided among, or assessed upon the subjects without favour and affec- tion to particular persons; that the imposition, though ap- plied to a good and publick use, was contrary to law, the historian has acknowledged in the most forcible, and express words.

Has the Citizen any where insinuated, that the as- sessment of ship-money was legal? Has he not expressly

(B) Daniel Barrow's Observations on the Statute chiefly the more ancient.

declared, that he does not mean to excuse that assent- ment? That the conduct of Charles will admit of no good apology? Yet that there were some appearances in his favour, the passages already quoted, candid men, I think, will admit, if not as a proof to con- vince, at least as an inducement to incline them to that opinion; mine, I confess, it is, and I make the ac- knowledgment, without fear of incurring the odious imputation of abetting arbitrary measures, or of being a friend to the Stuarts.

What means the insinuation, Antilon, conveyed in this sentence "The appellation 'tyrant' has I suspect rubbed the sore." Your endeavours to defame, ex- cite only pity, and contempt; your heaviest accusa- tions, thank God, have no better foundation than your own suspicions. But to return. I again assert, that notwithstanding all the acts ascertaining the sub- jects rights, cited in your last admirable, and polite performance, that the boundaries between liberty and prerogative were far from being ascertained in Charles's reign, with that precision, and accuracy, which the subsequent revolutions, and the improvements our constitution in later times have introduced (C). I must trouble my readers with a few more quotations from the obnoxious historian above-mentioned, sub- mitting the justice of his observations, and the infer- ence drawn from them to their decision, and better judgment.

"Those lofty ideas of monarchical power, which were very commonly adopted during that age and its which the ambiguous nature of the English constitution gave so plausible an appearance, were firmly riveted in Charles." Again, speaking of illegal imprison- ment, "But the Kings of England (says he) who had not been able to prevent the enacting these laws, (in favour of personal liberty) had sufficient autho- rity, when the tide of liberty was spent, to hinder their regular execution, and they deemed it super- fluous to attempt the formal repeal of statutes, which they found so many expedients, and pre- tentences to elude."

"The imposition of ship-money (the same historian remark:) is apparently one of the most dangerous invasions of national privileges, not only which Charles was ever guilty of, but which the most ar- bitrary princes in England, since any liberty had been ascertained to the people, had ever ventured upon." He subjoins in a note, "It must however be allowed, that Queen Elizabeth ordered the fea- ports to fit out ships, at their own expence, during the time of the Spanish invasion." Elizabeth treated her parliaments with haughtiness, and assumed a tone of authority in addressing those assemblies, which even the tyrant Charles did not exceed—her father govern- ed with despotic sway. To these opinions, and un- settled notions of the kingly power, and to the preju- dices of the age, candour perhaps will partly ascribe the determination of the judges in favour of ship-mo- ney, and not solely to corruption.

The Citizen has said, "that the revolution rather brought about, than followed King James's abdication of the crown." The assertion is warranted by the fact. James's endeavours to subvert the establishment of church and state, and to introduce arbitrary power, occasioned the general insurrection of the nation in vindication of its liberties, and the invasion of the Prince of Orange, soon afterwards crowned King of England. James, dispirited by the jult, and general desertion of his subjects, and fearing, or pretending to fear violence from his son in law, withdrew from the kingdom; his withdrawing was what properly constituted his abdication of the crown; his tyranni- cal proceedings were the cause indeed of that abdic- ation, and voted together with his withdrawing, an ab- dication of the government; till that event the revo- lution was incomplete. Will any man, except Anti- lon, or one equally prejudiced, inter from the last mentioned quotation, that the Citizen intended to cast any reflection on the revolution, to represent it as an unjust act of violence, or that he does not approve the political principles of those, by whom it was princi- pally accomplished?—I shall now consider Antilon's main argument in support of the proclamation, first reducing it into a syllogism.

"Taxes cannot be laid but by the legislative autho- rity; but fees have been laid by the separate branches thereof; therefore fees are not taxes." I deny the major, Mr. Antilon, in the latitude laid down by you, but admit it with this restriction, saving, in such cases as are warranted by long, immemorial, and uninterrupted usage. The very instances adduced in your paper are an exception to the general rule. The two houses of parliament have separately settled fees, as I said before, by the usage, custom, and law of parliament, which is part of the law of the land.

"The judges in Westminster-hall have settled fees," you say, without defining what you mean by a settlement

(C) "The latter years, says Blackstone, of Henry VIII. were the times of the greatest despotism, that have been known in this island, since the death of William the Nor- man; the prerogatives, as it then stood by common law, (and much more when extended by act of parliament) being too large to be endured in a land of liberty."