LAUDE,
and SILVERSMITH,
vern, ANNAPOLIS,
the public in genera'
lir, that he still conti
rades in all their vari
onable rates; also that
ts of fire-arms, smal
; He also makes hooks
most approv'd manner.
of hook and eyes to

9

REWARD.
ubscriber, on Tuesday
rk bay or brown horse,
, upwards of 13 hands
has a few gray hairs in
gallops, and when rode
has a hanging main, lit-
hort back; his tail when
y, was intended for a
ness of the person who
hort as a long bob, the
oken on the inside, and
ut half worn, but if he
y probable that one or
Whoever takes up both
ef be convicted, and the
Patuxent iron-works,
or 20 shillings for the
ould be a great distance,
owed if brought home,
JAMES RAWLINGS.

s county, May 24, 1775.
o all persons indebted to
y bond, note, or open
and settle their respec-
d to give no longer in-
ition will be adverted to,
lsory methods to enforce
to persons.
JOSEPH DUVALL.

April 10, 1775.
REWARD.
bscriber, living in Kent
8th of this instant, two
of which has about three

t thirty years of age, a
about five feet ... inc
dark hair, had on
n broad cloth coat,
ches, and a pair of black
yellow metal buttons, an
sleeves, shirts, shoes and
her or brickmaker.
36 years of age, five feet
e, fair skin, ruddy com-
had on and took with him
fashion, a purple under
or two check shirts, much
k silk handkerchief round
ley breeches, and a pair of
ir of Scotch Kilmarnock,
bed hose mixed black and
shoes, and square steel
and; and they have both
Pennsylvania. Whoever
ants, and secures them so
e them again, shall receive
out of the province, if in
half the above reward for

RICHARD GRAVES.

pscoo-Neck, April 3, 1775.
ARS REWARD.
g a Runaway,
sometimes known by the
commonly answers to the
rupt leave of his overseer
not yet returned; he is a
9 inches high, strong made,
tive in conversation, firm
perpetrate villainy, tho'
ple in speech: he has fre-
considerable part of this
ince of Pennsylvania; is
in the borough and coun-
ainted with Philadelphia;
e-visit those places. His
ne manufactured long cloth
breeches, yarn stockings,
oes, nailed with hobs; he
with him a blue German
loth vest, two pair of cot-
stockings, two white shirts
d castor hat with band and
ps, with a pair of double
has a mark of distinction,
ne other motive, he is care-
ars (but which is forgot)
other. The above reward
taken up out of the pro-
altimore town in the pro-
five pounds if at the dis-
ounds if 30, and forty shi
sonable travelling expences
under the act of assembly,
THOMAS JONES.

sold at the Printing-office,
EDINGS
THE
NTION
THE
F MARYLAND,
olis, on Thursday the 7th of
er, 1775.

(XXXI YEAR.) THE (No. 1595.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1776.

LONDON, *November* 23.

An authentic copy of the address and petition to his majesty, moved for by the earl of ABINGDON, *seconded by the lord* CRAVEN, *and signed by a very great majority of the gentlemen, clergy, and freeholders of the county of* BERKS, *at the meeting held in the town-hall at* ABINGDON, *pursuant to an advertisement from the high-sheriff, "for taking the general sense of the county on the present "unhappy differences between* GREAT-BRITAIN *and "her* COLONIES," *on Tuesday the 7th of November,* 1775.

To the KING'*s most excellent* MAJESTY.

The humble address and petition of the freeholders of the county of BERKS.

May it please your majesty,

YOUR majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, freeholders of the county of Berks, though deeply affected with the melancholy civil dissentions which prevail in your empire, have acquiesced, with boundless confidence in your majesty's goodness, and in the wisdom of your parliament, for the restoration of internal tranquillity to your dominions, and satisfaction and repose to the minds of all your subjects.

We conceive that the interference of your majesty's people, otherwise than by their representatives in parliament (although it be their undoubted right) ought to be extremely rare, and reserved for occasions of the greatest necessity: We have therefore beheld with astonishment, persons who profess uncommon zeal for your majesty's government discovering a manifest distrust in his discretion; urging your ministers to a continuance of the violent measures which hitherto have produced none but calamitous effects; and to which the ministers have shewn, and still do shew, a disposition which it does not seem at all necessary to stimulate.

These inflammatory addresses, we humbly apprehend, have a tendency to distress your majesty's paternal feelings, and by urging coercive measures as alone effectual and proper in the present disorders, to render such concessions as your majesty's and the public wisdom may think necessary to make, dishonourable and unsafe to your majesty, and this nation.

Finding the dangerous and seditious attempts to embarrass your majesty's councils, and prevent the restoration of tranquillity, pursued with an earnestness which fills the minds of your majesty's peaceable subjects with horror, we are constrained, very reluctantly, with all possible humility and deference, to lay before your majesty our faithful sentiments on the origin of the present troubles; on the measures which have been, and still are pursued, in consequence of those troubles; and on the dismal effects which we conceive must result from them.

As the inhabitants of that part of your dominions which is the seat of the imperial legislature, we have a due sense of the necessity of preserving the supreme authority of parliament over all the British empire: But as English freeholders, who value ourselves on our inestimable right of granting our own property, either by ourselves, or representatives of our own choosing only, we cannot, without divesting ourselves of every principle of equity, justice, and even of common decency, consider the complaints of millions of our fellow-subjects, separated from us by an immense ocean, on being taxed without any voice, directly or indirectly in the grant, to be entirely groundless, and the result of nothing but a factious spirit, aiming at the dismemberment of the empire.—The substantial, and not nominal assent of the subject in the grant of their own money, we can never hold to be a frivolous concern to English freeholders: It can never be exterminated in one part of the empire without being endangered in all: And we look with just indignation at the servile and unmanly spirit, in which the very principle of that sacred right is treated with scorn and ridicule, by several publications industriously circulated; and which, we trust, receive no countenance from your majesty's ministers; because, if so countenanced, they can have no other effect, than to raise a suspicion, that the government of this country is sliding from its only firm, natural, and constitutional foundations.

We have seen, with much concern, the disorders which have arisen in America on this serious ground. We lament; we blame them; but we cannot think them *unnatural*, in those in whom the love of freedom is united with the ordinary weakness and imperfection of human nature.

It is for that principle, joined with that infirmity, that we presume to supplicate your majesty's clemency.

The disorders have arisen from a complaint, plausible at least, of one right violated; and we can never be brought to imagine, that the true remedy for such disorders consists in an attack on all other rights, and an attempt to drive the people either to unconstitutional submission or absolute despair.

Sire, the affairs of your empire are distracted, because they are misconducted. The consequences of the measures pursued are as evident as they are deplorable.

Your majesty's ministers, finding the forces of your natural born subjects not sufficiently powerful for, or not sufficiently disposed to, the present coercive service, have listened to the offers of foreign nations, who have thought fit, it seems, voluntarily, and therefore in a manner the more alarming to all true Englishmen, to interfere in our domestic differences.

Prostrated before your throne, with faces suffused with shame, for this apparent nakedness of our country, and with hearts oppressed with anxiety for its future destiny, we deprecate, whilst yet it is in suspence, this most perilous and desperate proceeding. English dignity, and English government, whilst resting on their true bottom, can never stand in need of Russian assistance for their preservation.—They who are necessary to the support of government, are the government;—and if we cannot preserve America without foreign aid, America belongs to foreigners, and not to England.

It has been the usual course of a rebellious people to call in the arms of strangers to distract their country. This worst part of rebellion has not yet appeared in America. Let this one thing right in their conduct atone for many wrong ones; and let your majesty's clemency permit itself to operate in favour of a people, whose petitions have not yet appeared before any throne but yours.—Let not England set an example which is but too easily copied, by drawing into a free country, the insidious and mercenary aid of foreign forces trained to the support of a barbarous despotism. The moment that a great army of such, or of any foreigners, shall enter your territories, the liberties of your people are at an end; and your majesty's authority will be the more endangered by their assistance, than it can be by any rebellion which can arise among your own subjects.

When we have such terrible objects in prospect, we forget the millions we are spending, and the millions more we are like to spend, in this unhappy and fruitless contest.

Deign, therefore, most gracious sovereign, to attend to manifest reason delivered by the affectionate voice of duty and fidelity; strenuous as we are for the honour of our country, we cannot be forgetful of its peace and concord. It is therefore we abhor the idea of encouraging foreigners to make a prey of this nation and its dependencies, under the miserable and uncovered pretext of discountenancing faction and sedition among ourselves.

Signed by 840.

To the PEOPLE *of* PENNSYLVANIA.

LETTER IV.

ALAS POOR CATO!

WHAT a buzz hast thou raised about thine ears? How canst thou proceed in thy lucubrations? If the following SOLILOQUY *can yield thee any consolation, thou art welcome to place it either in front or rear of thy next letter. Thou wilt perceive thyself more indebted for it to* WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, *than to*

Thy friend and reader,

HAMLET.

"To write or not to write; that is the question—
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to bear
Th' unlicens'd wrongs of furious party-zeal,
Or dip the pen into a nest of hornets
And still, by teazing, wake them? To write, to answer—
No more? And by a single answer end
The thousand scorns and heart-aches which an author
Is born to suffer—'Tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wish'd! To write, to answer,
Reply, perchance rejoin—aye, there's the rub!
For in replies, and answers and rejoinders,
Who knows what deadly broils and feuds may come,
When we have shuffled off this mortal zest
Of mutual forbearance. There's the curse
That makes calamity of *wordy war.*
For who would bear the scoffing of the times,
The TORY's hated name, the *tool of power,*
The contumely of the *pension'd slave,*
When he himself might his *quietus* make
With a *dry quill?* Who would endure this Pain *,
This foul discharge of wrath from Adam's sons
Marshall'd in dread array, both old and Young,
Their pop-guns here, and there their heavy Cannon,
Our labour'd pages deem'd not worth a Rush,
But that the dread of something worse to come,
Some undiscover'd mischief, puzzles thought,
And makes one rather court the ancient path
Than fly to others that we know not of!
And thus the native hue of resolution
Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of fear,
And enterprizes of great pith and moment
With this regard, their currents turn awry.

THE foregoing soliloquy, my dear countrymen, was really put into my hands by a friend, and I have bestowed some serious thoughts upon its contents. But I had before resolved upon my part. The *authors,* or if I must say *author,* of what is called *Common Sense,* has certainly had fair play. Full time has been allowed him, by the sale of his pamphlet, to reap the fruits of his labours, and gratify that avidity with which many are apt to devour doctrines that are out of the common way—bold, marvellous, and flattering. What was intended as a compliment to the public—to give them time to gaze with their own eyes, and reason with their own faculties, upon this extraordinary appearance—the author's vanity has construed wholly in his own favour. He has called repeatedly for *answers,* and announced his second edition to the world in the following strain of self-adulation, "That as no answer hath yet appeared it is now presumed that none will," and therefore, as may be fairly implied, that he is unanswerable. Why then, when his challenge is accepted, will not he and his seconds fight upon fair terms? Why will they seek to draw the attention of the public from *things* to *men,* refusing that quarter to others which the author of *Common Sense* craves for himself? "Who the author of this publication is (says he) is wholly unnecessary to the public, as the object of attention is the *doctrine itself,* not the *man!* Can this sentence be reconciled to all the pother made about *Cato,* who and what he is; or does it not rather betray some symptoms of fear and cowardice, to beset him at the threshold, and seek to stop him in his march to the field? What although he attempts to walk forth humbly with his staff in his hand, and has been somewhat late in filling his scrip with stones to meet this GOLIAH! should he therefore be tauntingly defied? If what is called *Common Sense* be really *Common Sense,* it is invulnerable, and every attack upon it will but add to the author's triumph. If it should be proved, in any instances, to be *Non-Sense,* millions will be interested in the discovery; and to them I appeal.

Once more I repeat the design of these letters, in which I conceive a question to be involved of the greatest importance that ever came before us—a question not yet decided, and which ought therefore to be fully discussed. Opprobrious names can prove nothing here, except that they who use them have nothing better to say, and are afraid of their cause. It is probable that some may see their interest upon one side of the question, and some upon the other; but that the great body of the people can have any interest separate from their country, or (when fairly understood) pursue any other, is not to be imagined. If Cato may be believed, he can conscientiously class himself with this great body, and can assure his readers that the guesses hitherto made concerning him are rather unlucky.

Great pains have been taken to engage him in a contest with our committee, but as nothing has been quoted from him which concerns that body in general, he leaves his letters to answer for themselves; and if his comments on the circular letter to the county committees should appear to the public not to be well warranted, he will submit to their judgment. But he finds it would be endless to answer all the silly *querries,* and daily scribble, of his opponents; and has learned better than to be drawn from his main object by indulging them in this way. It would be too great a trespass upon the reader's patience. He has viewed the ground on which he stands, and is not afraid to tread it in the sight of the most vigilant son of liberty; making that free use of the *press* which is promised to him, without the least violation of any resolve of this continent, hitherto made.

One side of a great question has been held up to us. We are told that it can never be our interest to have any future connexion with Great-Britain, and are pressed immediately to *declare* our total separation, for now is the time—*and the time has found us.* Could it be expected that all America would instantly take a leap in the dark, or that any who had not a predilection for the doctrine, or were capable of reasoning upon it, would swallow it in the gross, without wishing to hear the arguments on the other side? I am sure this is the wish of multitudes of good men, particularly of those who may be principally concerned in deciding the question; and whose earnest desire it is not only to know the sense of individuals, but the clear sense of their country upon it; without which they could not think themselves at liberty to give their decision.

Upon this ground, then, I proceed, and shall rest the cause with my adversaries on the present *general defence,* which, (although I am sorry it was necessary) I have reason to think, will be more acceptable to the public, than the mispending time in private altercation. Those who oppose me, may enjoy for a while (perhaps unnoticed) all the triumph of the answers they may give; and if it is found at last, as has been already hinted, that I have said nothing to the purpose, their side of the question will only be strengthened.

In my remarks upon the pamphlet before me, I shall first consider those arguments on which the author appears to lay his chief stress; and these are collected under four heads, in his conclusion.

"It is the custom of nations, when any two are at "war, for some other powers, not engaged in the quarrel, to step in as *mediators,* and bring about the preliminaries of PEACE. But while America calls herself "a subject of Great-Britain, no power, however well "disposed she may be, can offer her *mediation.*"

Is this *Common Sense,* or common *Non-Sense?* Surely, *peace* with Great-Britain cannot be the object of this writer, after the horrible character he has given us of the people of that country, and telling us that reconciliation with them would be our ruin. The latter part of the paragraph seems to cast some light upon the former, although it contradicts it; for these *mediators* are not to interfere for making up the *quarrel,* but to widen it, by supporting us in a *declaration,* that we are *not subjects* of Great-Britain; a new sort of business, truly, for *mediators!*

But this leads us directly to the main enquiry—what foreign powers are able to give us this support? Whether they can be persuaded to engage with us? What will be their terms? Is an alliance with them safe? or is it to be preferred to an honourable and firm renewal of that ancient connexion, under which we have so long flourished?

These questions cannot but employ the most serious thoughts of men whose *all* is at stake, in the resolution of them; and they ought to be answered to the general satisfaction, before we are launched out into a tempestuous ocean, of which we know not the other shore. That a continuance of mutual violence and hate may at last force us upon such an ocean, is not altogether improbable; and it is possible that we may gain some port of safety, although in a shattered condition. Not a word shall be drawn from me to discredit our own strength or

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* *Some [illegible] in imitation of our authors, yet spell this word* Payne.