

MARYLAND GAZETTE

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1776

and S... tavern, ANNAPOLIS... at the public in general... trades in all their various... reasonable rates; also... sorts of fire-arms, small... He also makes books... most approved manner... of hoot... even to...

REWARD: Subscriber, on Tuesday, dark bay or brown horse, ing, upwards of 15 hands, and has a few gray hairs in the neck and gallow; and when red, has a hanging main, little short back; his tail when erect, was intended for a fullness of the person who is short as a long bow, the broken on the inside, and about half worn, but if he is very probable that one or two. Whoever takes up both thief be convicted, and the the Patuxent iron-works, and, or 30 shillings for the should be a great distance, allowed if brought home, JAMES RAWLINGS.

age's county, May 24, 1775. en to all persons indebted to r by bond, note, or open r and settle their respect- ined to give no longer in- quition will be adverted to, apulatory methods to enforce pect to persons. JOSEPH DUVAL.

April 10, 1775. OS. REWARD. Subscriber, living in Kent the 8th of this instant, two ch of which has about three

about thirty years of age, a- w, about five feet ten inches, ort dark hair; had on and- rown broad cloth coat, and- reches; and a pair of black- h yellow metal buttons, an- rge sleeves, shirts, shoes and- ither or brick-maker.

out 26 years of age, five feet- made, fair skin, ruddy com-; had on and took with him,- or fashion, a purple under- e or two check shirts, much- black silk handkerchief round- kersey breeches, and a pair of- pair of Scotch Kilmarnock,- ribbed hose mixed black and- rn shoes, and square steel- d hand; and they have both- of Pennsylvania. Whoever- ertants, and secures them- ave them again, shall receive- ken out of the province, if ia- or half the above reward for.

RICHARD GRAVES.

atapico Neck, April 3, 1775. LLARS REWARD.

ding a Runaway.

ive, sometimes known by the- t commonly answers to the- abrupt leave of his overseer- s not yet returned; he is a- et 9 inches high, strong made,- ceptive in conversation, firm- to perpetrate villainy, tho- usible in speech: he has fre- a considerable part of this- rovince of Pennsylvania; is- ed, in the borough and coun- -quainted with Philadelphia- e re-visit those places. His- home manufactured long cloth- and breeches, yarn stockings, - shoes, nailed with hob- - ken with him a blue German- d cloth vest, two pair of cot- -d stockings, two white shirt- -od castor hat with band and- pumps, with a pair of double- He has a mark of distinction, - some other motive, lie is care- -is ears (but which is forgott- -e other. The above reward- e be taken up, out of the pro- - Baltimore town in the pre- - five pounds if at the dis- - pounds if 30, and forty shil- - rasonable travelling expences, - e under the act of assembly.

THOMAS JONES.

be sold at the Printing-office.

EDINGS

THE

ENTION

THE

OF MARYLAND,

napolis, on Thursday the 7th of

ember, 1775.

XXXXXXXXXXXX

To CATO, CASSANDRA, and all the writers on the inde- pendent controversy.

GENTLEMEN. THOUGH it might be deemed absolutely ne- cessary to suppress all publications, which tend to dilunite the colonies, in their present spirited opposition to a cruel and un- natural attack from the people of England; yet the question of inde- pendency has been lately start- ed, in a pamphlet entitled Common Sense, and supported by a variety of subsequent auhors, I confess I was much pleas'd on the appearance of a writer on the other side of the question; for as I have no other view, than peace and happiness for myself and posterity, I was deter- mine to give an earnest attention to the arguments on both sides. It is no matter, with me, whether I live under an emperor, a pope, a bashaw, a king of Eng- land, or a republic, provided I can be convinced, by irrefragable arguments, that such or such a state contained the greatest quantity of happiness for the people at large, and for individuals in particular; for as I am in the situation of 99 out of every 100 in the world, who have no expectations of ever ascending into office, and riding upon the top of the machine, and have only to expect to contribute my proportion of labour to wheel it along, I therefore think it my business, as well as my fellow la- borers, to see that it is so constructed, as to move with as little labour as possible, and the machinery so contrived as to be the least liable to get out of order in the variety of rough and smooth roads through which we must inevi- tably pass. Now taking it for granted, that the ma- chine must necessarily be kept in proper motion, I con- sider, we are not to consult the ease and convenience of the riders, but that of the draughts-men, who being the majority, and giving motion to the machine for their own enolument (I know critics the simile wont run upon all hours, but I shall nevertheless stick to it till you change a better) I say, we move it along for our own enolument; and if the riders should insist on having it built to contain only a single chair for a crowned head, or to spread a larger floor over our heads to support a commonwealth, we who pull, and not they who ride, ought to be the judges of the matter; for that some must pull, and that some will ride, in every community on the face of the earth, must be granted me; therefore, and I have to consider, with the rest of my brethren on the ground, is to attach me to that machine or (if you will let me pursue the simile) to that system of government, which will afford me the most ease and give me the most gain.

I am in general know to little of the different inove- ments of a state and the complicated connections and dependencies on the other powers of the world, that they are almost unequal to the task of forming a proper judgment of the fitness or unfitness of this or that mode; for the reason it gave me great pleasure to think I was now about to have the matter laid before me in an open and candid manner, that, and the rest of my unlettered brethren might judge for ourselves. The writer signed Cato, should have liked much better, had his actions corresponded with his declarations--says he, "nor need any person be alarmed; for an indecent nor angry ex- pression, shall not dishonour my pen, nor yet a single sentiment which is not calculated to cement all par- ties in the province, upon safe and popular grounds, more firmly than ever, in executing the resolves of the congress, and main aining American liberty"--had this decency prevailed in Cato's breast, why did he, a few lines below, charge the commentators on the con- duct of the assembly, with "scurrilous misrepresen- tations?" Decency and scurrility can certainly have no possible connexion--and unhappily for him, in his second letter he proceeds to term a writer, who styles him- self Cassandra, "an enthusiast, a madman, and a barbarian." Language of this kind, can be of no real use to men who are searching for truth, and I will take the liberty to request Cato, in his future essays, to keep up to the decency he professed to set out with. I could have wished to have passed Cassandra unnoticed on this head; but as he also has given too much reason for censure, I will just make free to say, that his arguments have ac- quired no force with me, by directing personal attacks on Cato, and endeavouring to point out the real man to the publi; nay, by introducing the very name of a private gentleman into his essays, and obliquely glance- ing at him as the writer of Cato's letters. I am sensible it is so guarded, that Cassandra may plead off, and de- clare, if he pleases, that he had no such person in view; and Cato might find it difficult to disprove his sincerity. Cassandra may also assert, where he hints at the danger which Cato runs of "too far provoking the majesty of the people by the bold flourish of a pen which pays no respect to truth, lest he may find it expedient to end his days on the principles of dependency," that he meant no such thing as the threatening Cato with the chance of being hanged by a mob; though his marking the word "dependency" in italics, will certainly convey that idea to many minds. Now gentlemen, with all due respect to you both, I would wish you to avoid in- decency and personalty; however sharp your minds may be set against each other, upon a supposition that you have got at the secret of names on both sides, I would request you to consider, that though you are both vo- luntaries, yet you are in some measure accountable to the public. If two advocates, pleading a cause of great importance, before a learned court, and an intelligent jury, were to make use of illiberal reflections upon each

other's characters, and rip up a long list of charges of fraudulent designs and wicked practices, would not both courts and jury think themselves grossly insulted, and would not such advocates deserve the severest censure from the bench? Be pleased to remember, gentlemen, you are pleading at the bar of the public, upon a cause of greater importance than ever came before any tribunal on earth, no less than whether it is expedient or inexpedient to make a total separation in government between the new and the old world. Do you think, gentlemen, that a thousandth part of your readers, either know, care for, or desire to know who are the writers on this popular subject. If John a Nokes and Tom a Stiles should be fixed on as the authors in this city, and should hand forth to the public, every foible and unfavourable inci- dent of each other's life, of what importance, think you, would this be to those who are strangers to them both. If Kouli Khan's gardener's daughter had a child by the grand vizir's brother, what has that to do with the re- volution in Persia? 'tis the matter and not the man that the public are concerned with. If lord North him- self was prisoner amongst us, and should issue forth from his confinement, daily lucubrations on the subject now before us, I would give them as earnest a reading, as if they flowed from the pen of a Landen or a Burke; and yet I am a zealous advocate against Great Britain in the present controversy; 'tis truth, alone I am hunting for, and this I believe to be the case with nine-tenths of the people, therefore I beg you will behave like gentlemen to yourselves, and to the public canvass the matter fairly, fully and freely, and don't suppose yourselves of so much importance, as to think we shall be pleas'd with your calling on our attention from the grand question, to the unimportant discussions of the characters or schemes of either party. I, with a great number of o- thers, should be glad to see you enter deeply into the question, on both sides. State the advantages of an in- dependence--the benefits to be deriv'd from a new mode of government; how it will affect individuals; the addi- tional happiness and freedom it will produce, particu- larized in a number of plain, clear instances; for though I, and some others, might be satisfied with the general al- lertion, "that the state will be much benefited by the change," yet there is no gaining admission into some bot- tons, one by full and positive demonstration; and the number of such is very great--to make myself better understood, I mean thus--it is, being a shopkeeper in this city, having a tolerable stand for business, though at a distance from the market, was to be advised by B to remove his shop to the outskirts of the town, where he should be sure to make his fortune; A would natu- rally require of B some proof of its probability, as the propo- sition might seem a strange one; but B, being in the secret, should inform him that the corporation had de- termined to remove the market to that very spot, A would not hesitate a moment about the matter; so with respect to independence, some people will be satisfied with nothing sort of such clear and demonstrative evi- dence; you must tell them, also, of the particular new trade, which will be opened to us, the prices our goods will bear at home, to the farmer, and what they will bring at such and such ports, and how much those prices exceed what we have been used to get for them; at the markets we were allow'd to trade to; in this you must name the articles, the prices, and the places; you must then tell us, the advantages of buying silks, woollens, cottons, fluks, and hard ware, in France; Spain and Portugal, and other countries in Europe, and how much cheaper they are than in England, and Ireland; in this too you must name the goods, the places, and prices; and whether these pieces will take in ex- change, our lumber, our naval stores, our tobacco, flax seed, &c. &c. and what prices they will give; what credit it is customary for those several pieces to allow to foreigners on what we commonly call dry goods; for our country people generally requiring credit, the merchant-importer must have credit too, otherwise trade will be confined to a few rich buyers, who will exact what prices they please, upon the farmer and consumer. Next you must shew, that the charge of supporting government will be less, in a state of independence, than it hath been heretofore, during a connexion; you must name the expences we now pay, and the expence we shall then pay; you must give an estimate of the charge of supporting such an army and navy, in time of peace; as may always preserve the peace; there are many who wont be satisfied, with your telling them, that "a well regulated militia will save all the expence arising from the score of an army," say they, a man's time and labour, when he mutters, will always be the same to him, as money paid, and that therefore you must fix the number of men that are to be enrolled every year, and the number of times they shall appear; for instance, if in Pennsylvania 25,000 should muster eight times in the year, at 2s. 6d. per day, it would amount to £.25,000, which would be just equal to the present 1s. 6d. tax on all the estates in the province; if they are to receive no pay it will nevertheless be a loss to them, equal to that sum; if they are to be paid the amount of this tax should certainly be estimated, because it must be paid by the community at large in every province, in proportion to the numbers so enrolled as a militia. The expence of building a sufficient fleet should also be ascertained, and also the number of ships and men necessary to be kept in constant pay, as guarda coasts, occasional convoys, or dispatch vessels, conveying am- bassadors to the different ports in Europe, and you must also estimate the annual expence of watching, and keeping those vessels in repair, which are laid up; also the expences of maintaining in every court of Europe am- bassadors, consuls, messengers, spies, and even bribe money, for intelligence of the designs of their respective cabinets; also the expences of the

fleet and army in time of war; for we may reasonably expect to share the same fate of other nations, and of being sometimes unfortunately engaged in war, with some troublesome ambitious prince or other; perhaps they may undertake to stop our trade up the Straights into the Mediterranean, or up the north seas, to Hol- land, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Russia, we must then either give it up, or fight for it, or pay some subsidy to a foreign power for protection in those seas--the expences in any, or all, of those cases, you should give to us--also in what proportion the value of our estates in America will increase, so as to defray the necessary charges of government, taking for granted, that an 1s. 6d. tax in the pound, on all taxable Estates in America, does now yield 533,737 dol- lars, being rather more than half a million; which is calculated thus; Pennsylvania is rated by the congress to pay about one eighth of all the expences of the united colonies; and as a tax of 1s. 6d. in the pound in the said province, nets about £.25,000--we may suppose, an 1s. 6d. tax upon the united colonies, will yield just eight times as much, which is £.200,000 our currency or 533,333 dollars per annum. Lastly you are to con- sider, after all things are candidly stated, whether the sums annually raised on the one hand to protect our- selves, and the absolute gain in trade (over and above what we used to make) on the other hand; do or do not render it most for our interest to separate from Britain. On the part of those who contend for a connexion, they must shew what are the advantages that result from such a connexion; what were the customary expences of government in America, before the present rupture; what are the exclusive privileges we derive from exporting goods to Great Britain; whether there are acts of parliament in favour of the colonies, to the prejudice of other nations; and which we reap the sole advantage of--and whether there are any equivalent to any loss we may sustain; by having our trade confined to them; whether our trade is not limited to our great dis- advantage; you are to parti wiarise the ports we may trade to, under the old regulations; and the different articles of America, which we may carry directly to for- eign ports, you must shew that the principal part of the goods we import from England and Ireland could not be supplied us upon as good terms from any other country, and that those nations, with whom we might imagine to trade, would not grant us bounties as in naval stores, and sundry other articles in the same manner as England does, the amount of which annually paid to the colonies, you should sum up. You must also shew, why (if you can) why America ought not to take credit to herself, for all the taxes paid by the English manufacturers, before they send their goods to the colonies; it being generally granted, that the consumer ultimately pays all charges; you must also shew, whether taxes on goods imported into America from Holland, France or Spain (where imposts are very heavy) are or are not added to the cost of the said goods, in the same manner as we reckon them on English goods. Also whether the long established credit our American mer- chants have obtained in England, in the interior part of the kingdom, with the original manu-actu-ers, cannot be as well accomplished in the new countries we may go to; or whether we must take their goods, from mer- chants at the several out-ports, with all the middle men's or intervening dealers profit added to them; and if we should obtain credit at such places for twelve months, as in England, what will be the advantage which a Frenchman, a Dutchman, or a Spaniard, will chuse to put on his goods, as an equivalent, for the risk which he will sup- pose himself to run, by trusting strangers. Whether it is not a general established custom with all trading na- tions to trust foreigners, with whom they have no legal or political constitutional connexion, as freely as their own subjects in distant parts of the world; if this is not generally the case, you should shew, why America can't make treaties with such powers in order to obtain credit; either by pledging to them the estates of the community at large, to make good deficiencies that might happen by Ant-wind's sailing, or neglecting to pay such foreign debts, or by such other means as the American states might think fit to offer. You should also shew, whether the low price of goods, for many years past, was owing to the smallness of the demand, or to the great quanti- ties brought to market, or to the reasonableness and moder- ation of the importing merchants; and whether, if France, Spain and Holland should refuse to give credit to every young merchant going out for a cargo, with a tolerable recommendation, as the traders in England have been accustomed to do, I say, it this should be the case, and the importation should fall wholly into the hands of a few rich merchants, why might not some mode of restriction be entered into for preventing the exorbitant exactions they might be guilty of, to the great injury of the consumers? You must also convince the farmer, if he bought his goods as low as formerly; occasioned by a re-union with Great-Britain, that he would also have the same advantages of shipping off his produce, which he has been used to, without any re- striction laid on our trade that might lower the price when he brought his crops to market. You must also point out what advantage it would be to England to have tobacco, once more exported to them; and whether this, among other considerations, would be any inducement for them to offer us better terms. Some might possibly think that, nationally speaking, the being de- prived of an expensive luxury, would be rather a gain than a loss; for though the tax on this article may be rated at 40s,000l. per annum, yet it is wholly paid by themselves as well as the great cost of the tobacco. The public funds would indeed be lessened, but the people would be gainers, in a sum just equal to the neat amount paid to the American planter; therefore you must shew

CASSANDRA will please to excuse the appellation of Gentlemen, for as the prophet said that the Prophets could never be credited, I am under the necessity of dis- tinguishing that the modern CASSANDRA is a Lady.