

them of the many deliverances which God had given them, by the hands of their judges, Moses, Jephthah, Gideon, &c. having with a strong hand brought them out of Egypt; having subdued the Assyrians, Ammonites, Moabites and Philistines before them; and that, for all this, they preferred a government even after the most corrupt models, to his just and righteous government. And, to convince them still further of their folly and ingratitude, the prophet appeals to a signal, which he would give them from heaven. He accordingly calls down an uncommon storm, in the midst of harvest, and the astonished multitude cry out—WE HAVE ADDED TO OUR SIN THIS EVIL TO ASK US A KING.

Here our author erects his standard; and here he compliments himself with the mockery of triumph. "These portions of scripture (says he, in all the assurance of infallibility) are direct and positive. They admit of no equivocal construction. That the ALMIGHTY hath here entered his protest against MONARCHICAL GOVERNMENT is true, or the Scripture is false."—But I will take the liberty to say that the Scripture is true, and that this author's inference is shamefully false; nay further, that from the whole spirit of the passage, as well as the reason of things, it is to be inferred that the Almighty would have as strongly expressed his displeasure against the Jews, had they rejected his government for one of their own appointment, whether monarchical or democratical—whether it had been to be administered by one man or a thousand men.

The author had said before, that Samuel did not shew the manner of any "particular king, but the general manner of the kings of the earth, whom Israel was so eagerly copying after." If he means to confine himself to these kings, I have given them to him to make the most of them. But if he means to argue from particulars to generals, and to make the old prophet extend his protest against all monarchical governments, such as were to subsist some thousands of years afterwards, however limited and mixed, particularly that of Great-Britain (which must certainly be our author's meaning, or he proves nothing to his purpose) I say, if this be his meaning, I cannot so easily part with him. For in this lies our whole difference; and the particular case of the Jews cannot be applied to any other nation, in this instance, as none else was ever in similar circumstances.

ACHERLEY, in his Britannic constitutions (and I think our author borrows some of his principles where they can serve his purpose) says expressly—"That the nation round about Israel veiled their kings with absolute power—and that it is a wild imagination to say that the Israelitish kings, who were but copies (of these kings) should either in their election or power, be a pattern to Great-Britain."—"There cannot be found, either in the old or new Testament, any particular description of the race of men which are or ever were kings of this nation." How then can there be a Scripture protest against a race of men who are not even described in Scripture? Mark that common sense.

Let me add one authority more, from a commentator at least as good as our author, and who, nevertheless, flatly contradicts him—I mean the celebrated GROTIUS. He tells us, that Samuel, in this passage, does not speak of what our author calls the "general manner of kings," or the just and honest right of a king to do such things, because his right is otherwise described elsewhere, as shall be shewn. The prophet only speaks of such a right as the kings round about Israel had acquired, which was not at all right; for such is not the signification of the original word mishpat, but such an action as (being founded in might and violence) hath the effectum juris, or comes in the place of right.

Grotius, I fear, is too learned for us inferior writers (scriptores minorum gentium) to follow him in this place. He is, however, well warranted in his interpretation, not only by the Hebrew text, but other clear passages of scripture, and particularly the 17th chapter of Deuteronomy; where, with the approbation of Heaven, the duty of a good king is described and limited. The Jews commonly understood this chapter as containing an absolute promise from heaven, of a royal government, and a sufficient authority for this request made to Samuel more than three hundred years afterwards. Others understood it conditionally—that if they did reject their divine government, and set up one of their own appointment, God would permit them; but their king should be chosen in the manner, and with the qualification in that chapter described. All this, however, they disregarded, when they asked an arbitrary king like those of their neighbouring nations; and therefore it is demonstrably certain that Samuel, in entering his protest against such kings, did not protest against kings or monarchical governments generally. Either this remark is true, or one part of the scripture is a direct contradiction to the other. But let the passage to which I refer speak for itself.

When thou art come into the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee—and shalt say I will set a king over me, like as all the nations that are about me; thou shalt in any wise set him king over thee, whom the Lord thy God shall choose; one from among thy brethren, not a stranger, &c. It is further directed that he shall not be given to covetousness—nor multiply horses nor wives to himself—nor greatly multiply to himself gold and silver—That when he shall sit upon the throne of his kingdom, he shall write a copy of the law in a book (which it was understood he was to do with his own hand)—That this book shall be with him (or always carried about him) and he shall read therein all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, to keep the words of the law, and make it the rule of his government, as well as private life. If he does this, God promises a blessing on his government, to prolong his days in his kingdom; HE AND HIS CHILDREN in the midst of Israel.

Does not this smell strong of monarchy, and even of hereditary monarchy? Is not some sort of approbation, yea and a blessing, promised to both, when religiously administered, notwithstanding all that this writer has said to the contrary?

(The remainder will be in our next.)

L O N D O N, January 9.

The prisoners brought from America, and now in Cornwall, were taken by a small party of Indians inhabiting the back settlements of New York; two of their chiefs are now in town, and lodge in Lad-lane, with several other American gentlemen lately come

Mark that, "Cato" is a favourite expression of our author, in the character of the Forester.

over with col. Johnson, the chiefs are come with an offer of their services to government.

Extract of a letter from Portsmouth, Jan. 6.

This morning arrived the Tartar man of war from Boston, after a fine passage of twenty one days, having on board seventy-five rebels of the American army, which were taken in a privateer the Americans had fitted out at Boston. She brought some fresh dispatches, which were sent up to the secretary of state's office on Saturday night.

A commodore with six line of battle ships and eight frigates, will sail, we are told, to America the beginning of March next; the above ships are to take on board their full complement of marines, and are to be laden as deep as possible with provisions, &c.

The council, it is said, is much agitated with contrary opinions since general Burgoyne's arrival from Boston; some, we are told, are for conciliatory measures.

By a letter from Rochfort, we are assured thirteen frigates are fitting out at that port only, for the American settlements, each of which is to carry over land forces.

Pris warrants are expected to be issued out soon, as the captains of all the outward bound ships have been very solicitous to procure protections.

Orders have been sent to Plymouth for all the guard-ships there to take on board their full complement of men, as in time of war.

Orders have been sent to all the out-ports, to be very cautious, and strict in examining all persons and vessels, &c. that may be judged the least suspicious.

Orders are given for a quantity of beef and pork, sufficient for ten ships of the line for six months, to be got ready as soon as possible.

We hear from Dublin, that the discontents of the people have been lately considerably increased by the appointments given to Mr. Jenkinson, Welbore Ellis and lord Clare, whom the Irish hold in a very contemptible light; the coffee-houses in Dublin abound with the most virulent abuse against these ministerial favourites, for attempting to get an increase of salary annexed to offices, which are mere sinecures and a burden to the nation; nay the Irish gentlemen in the interest of the crown, think themselves ill used by having such appointments bestowed on Jenkinson and Ellis, who are strangers to the country, and consequently no ways interested in its prosperity, farther than it may answer the particular views of their patron.

A compact is lately signed between our court and that of three northern powers, by which they have stipulated to furnish Great-Britain between them with 60,000 troops, the better to enable the latter to carry on the continental war.

Several transports are brought up to the tower in order to take in cannon, balls, and other warlike stores, for Boston; which transports are to be conveyed by six men of war, to prevent their being taken by the provincials.

A small vessel will be dispatched to America this week, with orders for all the transports that have delivered their cargoes at Boston, &c. to leave that place immediately, and return to England with all expedition.

Monday a brig from Quebec arrived at Portsmouth. She brings an account of the provincials having taken Montreal.

Some distinguished members of the minority have, it is confidently said, been offered to have their names inserted in the commission appointing delegates to pardon the American colonies, which several of them have accepted.

B O S T O N, March 29.

The address of the hon. council and house of representatives, to his excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq. general and commander in chief of the forces of the united colonies.

May it please your excellency,

WHEN the liberties of America were attacked by the violent hand of oppression—when troops hostile to the rights of humanity, invaded this colony, seized our capital, and spread havoc and destruction around it—when our virtuous sons were murdered, and our houses destroyed by the troops of Britain—the inhabitants of this, and the other American colonies, impelled by self-preservation and the love of freedom, forgetting their domestic concerns, determined resolutely and unitedly to oppose the sons of tyranny.

Convinced of the vast importance of having a gentleman of great military accomplishments, to discipline, lead and conduct the forces of the colonies, it gave us the greatest satisfaction to hear that the honourable congress of the united colonies, had made choice of a gentleman thus qualified, who leaving the pleasures of domestic and rural life, was ready to undertake the arduous task. And your nobly declining to accept the pecuniary emoluments annexed to this high office, fully evidenced to us that a warm regard to the sacred rights of humanity, and sincere love to your country, solely influenced you in the acceptance of this important trust.

From your acknowledged abilities as a soldier, and your virtues in public and private life, we had the most pleasing hopes; but the fortitude and equanimity so conspicuous in your conduct; the wisdom of your councils; the mild, yet strict government of the army; your attention to the civil constitution of this colony; the regard you have at all times shewn for the lives and health of those under your command; the fatigues you have with cheerfulness endured; the regard you have shewn for the preservation of our metropolis, and the great address with which our military operations have been conducted, have exceeded our most sanguine expectations, and demand the warmest returns of gratitude.

The supreme ruler of the universe having smiled on our arms, and crowned your labours with remarkable success; we are now, without that effusion of blood, we so much wished to avoid, again in the quiet possession of our capital; the wisdom and prudence of those movements, which have obliged the enemy to abandon our metropolis, will ever be remembered by the inhabitants of this colony.

May you still go on approved by heaven, revered by all good men, and dreaded by those tyrants who claim their fellow men as their property. May the united colonies be defended from slavery by your victorious arms. May they still see their enemies flying before you; and (the deliverance of your country being effected) may you, in retirement, enjoy that peace and satisfaction of mind, which always attends the good and

great, and may future generations, in the peaceful enjoyment of that freedom, the exercise of which your sword shall have established, raise the richest and most lasting monuments to the name of WASHINGTON.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S ANSWER.

GENTLEMEN,

I return you my most sincere and hearty thanks, for your polite address; and feel myself called upon by every principle of gratitude, to acknowledge the honour you have done me in this testimonial of your approbation of my appointment to the exalted station I now fill; and what is more pleasing, of my conduct in discharging its important duties.

When the councils of the British nation had formed a plan for enslaving America, and depriving her sons of their most sacred and invaluable privileges, against the clearest remonstrances of the constitution—of justice and of truth; and to execute their schemes, had appealed to the sword, I esteemed it my duty to take a part in the contest, and more especially, when called thereto by the unolicited suffrages of the representatives of a free people; wishing for no other reward, than that arising from a conscientious discharge of the important trust, and that my services might contribute to the establishment of freedom and peace, upon a permanent foundation, and merit the applause of my countrymen, and every virtuous citizen.

Your professions of my attention to the civil constitution of this colony, whilst acting in the line of my department, also demand my grateful thanks. A regard to every provincial institution, where not in compatible with the common interest, I hold a principal of duty and of policy, and shall ever form a part of my conduct. Had I not learnt this before, the happy experience of the advantages resulting from a friendly intercourse with your honourable body, their ready and willing concurrence to aid and to counsel whenever called upon in cases of difficulty and emergency, would have taught me the useful lesson.

I hat the metropolis of your colony is now relieved from the cruel and oppressive invasion of those who were sent to erect the standard of lawless domination, and to trample on the rights of humanity, and is again open and free for its rightful possessors, must give pleasure to every virtuous and sympathetic heart, and being effected without the blood of our soldiers, and fellow citizens, must be ascribed to the interposition of that providence, which has manifestly appeared in our behalf through the whole of this important struggle, as well as to the measures pursued for bringing about the happy event.

May that being who is powerful to save, and in whose hands is the fate of nations, look down with an eye of tender pity and compassion, upon the whole of the united colonies; may he continue to smile upon their councils and arms, and crown them with success, whilst employed in the cause of virtue and of mankind. May this distressed colony and its capital, and every part of this wide extended continent, through his divine favour, be restored to more than their former lustre and once happy state, and have peace, liberty and safety secured upon a solid, permanent, and lasting foundation.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

W A T E R T O W N, April 8.

Last Wednesday capt. Manly took and sent into Beverly, a large brig, after some resistance. This vessel was purchased by William Jackson, at the Brazen head, who with Crean Brush, and a number of others women and children, were on board, besides a sergeant and 13 privates, of the 4th or King's own regiment, who are made prisoners. She was bouad for Halifax, and has on board a variety of articles; she is estimated to be worth about 35 cool. sterling.

Since our last the select men of the town of Boston, waited upon his excellency gen. WASHINGTON with the following address, viz.

May it please your excellency,

THE select men of Boston, in behalf of themselves and fellow citizens, with all grateful respect, congratulate your excellency on the success of your military operations, in the recovery of this town from an enemy, collected from the once respected Britons, who, in this instance, are characterized by malice and fraud, rapine and plunder, in every trace left behind them.

Happy are we, that this acquisition has been made with so little effusion of human blood, which, next to the divine favour, permit us to ascribe to your excellency's wisdom, evidenced in every part of a long besiegement.

If it be possible to enhance the noble feelings of that person who, from the most affluent enjoyments, could throw himself into the hardships of a camp to save his country, uncertain of success, 'tis then possible this victory will heighten your excellency's happiness, when you consider you have not only saved a large, elegant, and once populous city from destruction; but relieved the few wretched inhabitants from all the horrors of a besieged town, from the insults and abuses of a disgraced and chagrined army, and restored many inhabitants to their quiet habitations, who had fled for safety to the bosom of their country.

May your excellency live to see the just rights of America settled on a firm basis, which felicity we sincerely wish you, and at a late period may that felicity be changed into happiness eternal.

JOHN SCOLLY,
TIMO. NEWELL,
THO. MARSHALL,
SAMUEL AUSTIN,
OLIVER WENDELL,
JOHN PITTS.

Select men of Boston.

To his excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq. general of the united forces in America.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S ANSWER.

To the select men and citizens of Boston.

GENTLEMEN,

YOUR congratulations on the success of the American arms gives me the greatest pleasure.

I most sincerely rejoice with you on your being once more in the quiet possession of your former habitations; and what greatly adds to my happiness, that this de-

sirable event has human blood.

I am exceedingly pleased to enquire in the civility with which human calamities memorance of you pray that the blessing of your repose; and a defence may give of Boston.

Last Friday the returned and another dington's point, small tender, which was light the nation on this is upon the point than Algerie times, the Navy through and the which capt W away the buoy and made off as followed in the fired about 15 least effect, thou as open as they work or other st

Yesterday in can regulars w which the Glas fright, a large p carried out wit very thick air, lying where the fore they disco laid her aboard, board 7 men an with flour, &c bound from Ma

Last week n navy on this sta

N E W

By a gentleman on Staten Island are informed, that that island to ministerial robbery had received in tender had con safety, and had number of me musket and cal appeared the ran for the ship began men, with un withstanding men, took ten their boats, t one of the rifling his grasp, fell over-board to the vessel. some hours, w who lay snug b der, and at luc was seen to tum whom they too were killed. I board the ship cable, and the the tide, which men. Among been one of our his country's c fox is caught.

Saturday last arrived here from Esq. his aid c general, and se

Admiral Ho his command morning from large quantity at New-Provid he also carried off belonging ders Block illa part of the flee got of 20 gun whom he had London paper night, we hav culars,

We hear hi Nauticus now Hook this day

Extract of a

"This mo pounders, an longing to the by a lieutenant ed men on bo Virginia, fell brig called t was continued when the ter killed and h Eised and on

April 17, tion, and left city and New sia; the tro are to let all to Jersey, t Given at he 1776.