

MARYLAND GAZETTE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1782.

Mr. Printer, I cannot pretend to us great abilities to entertain the public as some of your numerous correspondents, nor do I expect to equal them in the choice of my words or purity of my style, for I am a plain countryman, and lay no claim to the title of a scholar; but of this I am sure, none of them can have better intentions, and I hope at least to be able to make myself understood, which by the bye is more than can be said of some of them, particularly a person who calls himself a Republican, who deals out to us such a confounded number of pliguy hard words that we country folks who have not always the conveniency of a dictionary at hand, can scarce make head or tail of a single sentence, although I don't doubt it is mighty fine if we could but tell what it meant.

Lord bless him, say I, for he is a mighty good man, and has risked his life in our cause too, as I have been told. If all our delegates were like him, I do not believe our affairs would be conducted as they are. Why, Sir, I have been informed, that after having done all the good in his power to his own state, he came here out of pure good will to us, to save us from the danger with which he saw we were threatened in a particular manner by the wicked designs of that infernal city member. I ask pardon, Mr. Printer, I am not very apt to call names, but really when I think of him, I cannot at all times entirely refrain my indignation, and I verily believe if I should happen to meet with him when I am in one of these humours, I should pull him by his horns; for we are told he has horns like the devil, eye and a cloven foot too, nay some think he is one of his imps.

dark night on an errand. Poor Sofia, who was as rank a coward as ever was kitteded, perceiving some body coming towards him, began to whistle to disguise his fears, however it did not answer his purpose, for the stranger, who approached, proved to be the god Mercury, who soon beat Sofia out of his tune.

February residue of Nottingham captain convenient lites, the lots, A and fold, the (ur-nought the that any the works e residue, ms of sale d, and a already I be dis- vate state The late time and e sold for state cony to be remainder inasmuch as much with the public from day the whole

Well, Sir, in these papers, of which I was telling you, we were informed that the city member was at the head of a party who wanted to destroy the constitution—to make slaves of us all—to introduce military government—to establish a dictator; in short Mr. Printer, in one word, to play hell and the devil with us. We were also told that he was a bastard I think, or something of that nature, which I did not very well understand, but perhaps I might be mistaken, for it was in a great croud where I heard it, and the person who read it seemed at times quite choked with passion. I remember also we were particularly cautioned to take great care that we got none of his kidney into our senate, for that it was solely owing to a virtuous senate that we had not suffered all those evils long ago. And indeed that I firmly believe myself, for I know the senate most violently opposed the confederation, and the confiscation of British property, with some things of that sort, which the city member spared no pains to carry into execution, and which I always understood were the surest means to make slaves of us and our children after us. And indeed with respect to these matters, that same delegate of this county deserves also a great deal of credit, for he most heartily joined with the senate in the opposition, and I am told he had the honour on one of the many questions that were put on the subject of British property to divide single and alone against a majority of all the other members of the house; which I think much to his advantage, as it shewed he was neither afraid nor ashamed to declare his sentiments let who would differ from him. And this now just brings to my mind a most excellent speech, which he once made in this county, about the confiscation of British property, for which in the opinion of myself and many others he deserved our best thanks, although some of his enemies have endeavoured to represent it much to his disadvantage, because he said something about the event of the war being uncertain, which to be sure was very true, and that we should consider consequences, &c. Lord Mr. Printer it would have done your heart good to have seen him; for he is a fine personable man as any you would wish to behold in a summer's day; and then he seems so much in earnest! Why, Sir, you would think he was going to knock a man down; and so I believe in my conscience he would, if any body was to contradict him. But I ask your pardon, Mr. Printer, for as I recollect you are clerk to the house of delegates, you must often have heard him yourself, for I am told he makes a great many wonderful fine speeches there; some of them almost an hour long; and would always convince every hearer and silence all contradiction, was it not for a vile trick which they say the other party use of hawking, spitting, coughing, sneezing, shuffling with their feet, and many other little arts to take off the attention of the members, which I think is a great sin to be permitted in a place where there is a person appointed for no other purpose than to keep order.

So I very fairly concluded that the city member was only whistling; and when I found a most respectable and most virtuous member of the senate, of great integrity and if possible of still greater abilities, undertake to be his accuser, to connoir his faults—and set all his crimes in public view, with proofs and demonstration strong, "hab, ah," said I to myself, "I was not mistaken; here comes our little Mercury! I'll answer for it, he will soon put an end to your whistling!"

CHARLES HOMESPUN.

Kent county, January 11, 1782.

Philo-Censor will be in our next.

NEW-YORK, January 9.

LAST Saturday arrived here from Corke, a fleet of 25 victuallers, conveyed by his majesty's ship Quebec, of 38 guns, commanded by Christopher Mason, Esq; and the Grass, of 23, by capt. Fortescue. They left Corke on the 29th of October, on the 27th of December that part of the convoy destined for Carolina was sent up to Charles-town; on the 28th they sailed from the bar of that port, and 3 days after, viz. on the 31st of January, with the remaining convoy for thisarrison anchored in New-York harbour. They left the Rotterdam and Astraea's fleet of victuallers, store ships, &c. at Charles-town, where they had arrived from Corke ten days before the Quebec's convoy got thither. On the passage capt. Mason took the Fanfare brig, capt. Barr, from Cadix for Philadelphia, laden with wine, silk and salt, and the ship St. Lawrence, from Havannah to Porto Rico, which were sent for Charles-town. From the Spanish papers found on board the latter, we learn that a frigate and some other armed vessels, with 1500 troops, were to be embarked at Havannah on an expedition against our island of Providence; another squadron, consisting of a ship of the line of 74 guns, and 4 gun frigates, were to touch at