

about half a mile from her house. A jury being summoned, gave in their verdict, that her death was accidental. It appears that she left her house about day break that morning, in a snow storm, and being insane, and thinly clothed, she froze to death.

Feb. 20. Saturday last arrived at Newport, captain Samuel Stillman, in the brig Milley, belonging to Connecticut river, in 24 days from Point Petre; from the severity of the weather on the coast, his people were badly frosted; and he passed fields of ice to the southward of Montague.

BALTIMORE, March 23.

Last Sunday night, between 10 and 11 o'clock, a gentleman was stopped, in Market-street, by three armed foot-pads, and robbed of a sum of money, his watch, hat, &c. Yesterday one of the villains was apprehended, and committed to goal.

Several attempts were made, last night, to rob houses and stores, in different parts of the town, which is again, notwithstanding recent awful examples, infested by gangs of burglars, shoplifters, foot pads, and petty-larceny rascals. This information, it is hoped, will excite care and vigilance amongst our fellow-citizens.

ANNAPOLIS, March 25.

By the UNITED STATES in CONGRESS assembled, March 3, 1784.

RESOLVED, That to-morrow be assigned for electing five commissioners to negotiate with the Indians.

MARCH 4, 1784.

Congress proceeded to the election of five commissioners to negotiate with the Indians, and the ballots being taken, Mr. George Rogers Clarke, Mr. Oliver Wolcott, Mr. Nathaniel Greene, Mr. Richard Butler, and Mr. Stephen Higgenon, were elected.

MARCH 5, 1784.

RESOLVED, That the president immediately inform the gentlemen elected commissioners for holding a treaty with the Indians, of the said election, and that, as it is the wish of Congress that the negotiations should commence as soon as possible, the commissioners are desired to meet at New-York, on the 10th day of April next, to fix upon the times and places of holding the treaties with the different nations and tribes of Indians, and give them respectively the speediest information of the time and place determined on, inviting them to meet accordingly.

RESOLVED, That all appointments of persons for negotiating with the Indians, prior to that of the 4th instant, be and they are hereby revoked.

Published by order,

CHARLES THOMSON, fec.

On the 29th of October last, the thanks of the Irish house of commons were unanimously voted to Sir Eyre Coote, for his great perseverance and indefatigable pains to surmount the great difficulties he had to encounter in the Carnatic, and his gallant conduct throughout the whole of his command in the East-Indies. The next day, the thanks of that house were, in like manner, voted to vice-admiral Sir Edward Hughes, for his excellent conduct in the several engagements he had with the French fleet in the East Indies.—Thanks were afterwards voted to officers and seamen that served under Sir Edward Hughes, as also, to Sir Roger Curtis, for the gallant part he took in the defence of Gibraltar, and the humanity he displayed in saving the lives of a number of unfortunate Spaniards.

No mail has arrived here from the northward since last Tuesday week.

ARRIVALS.—In the river Thames, (England) the Marian, Annon, from Carolina; the Nanley, Newman, and Dendermond, Codner, from Virginia; and the Succes, M'Millan, from New-York.—At Liverpool, the Virginia, Akew, from Virginia.

At Whetstone-point, near Fell's point, brigantine —, captain Hall, from St. Eutatus; schooner Havana, captain —, from Martinico; brig Swift, captain Hern, from Dominica; a brigantine from Guadaloupe; and schooner Betty, captain Weston, from Boston.

To the CITIZENS of MARYLAND.

ACTUATED by a sense of public duty, arising from the idea of that inquisitive spirit which is ever found in the minds of freemen, I some time ago published an account of Sir Robert Eden's conduct, in attempting by his own act to give validity to patents for land since the institution of the present government, so far as the knowledge of facts enabled me. As this transaction has been the subject of earnest enquiry among the citizens of Maryland, who have a proper regard for the laws and the dignity of the state, it is right that they should be acquainted with the whole of it, and the desired information becomes the more necessary, because a writer who styles himself *Candidus*, in a Baltimore paper of the second instant, has been guilty of a manifest misrepresentation of facts, and has reproached the motives that dictated the discovery and reprehension of Sir Robert's dark machinations; I therefore presume to lay before the public, a state of the whole affair, not drawn from mere declarations, not grounded upon the suggestions of friend or foe to Sir Robert, but confirmed and rendered authentic by the following certified copies from the records of the council board:

Annapolis, January 13, 1784.

In COUNCIL.

SIR,

WE are informed by the register of the land-office, who has applied to us for our advice and direction, that a considerable number of certificates and patents, and also a number of certificates which are endorsed *patented*, have been delivered him by your orders since your late return from Great-Britain, and we have reason to think that you have in your possession the patents of those certificates which are endorsed *patented*, and that they have been signed by you since the revolution. In order to ascertain the authenticity of those papers, it becomes our duty to enquire in whose hands they have been kept till your delivery of them to the register, and whether you have still in your possession any papers purporting to be patents or grants

to citizens of this state; and for the like purpose of ascertaining the legality of those papers, or others, we must desire you to inform us explicitly, whether, since your return you have done any matter or thing whatever, to give sanction or validity to those papers, or any others, under a mistaken notion of any subsisting power or authority as governor, or under any other idea or supposition of a rightful power. We are, Sir, your most obedient humble servants,

(Signed)

W. P. A. C. A.

SIR ROBERT EDEN.

True copy.

T. JOHNSON, jun.

Annapolis, January 14, 1784.

SIR,

IT was with the utmost concern and some surprize that I received the letter your excellency did me the honour of writing to me yesterday from council, not having the least suspicion that any part of my conduct, since my arrival in this state, could have drawn on me the censure of your excellency and the honourable council.

I flattered myself that my constant endeavour to shew all possible respect to government had been such, that allowing I had made a mistake in signing a few patents, a favourable construction would have been put on the motives that must have induced me to it.

The patents which were left in my secretary's office, and were afterwards put away with my papers, ought to have been signed before I went home, which time did not admit; they were all made out in my name; the fees of the seal for several of them were paid; some of them were signed, and some of them were sealed; I considered what I did, on consultation with Mr. Clapham and my late secretary, in the same light as I should have done, paying any other debt I might have contracted when governor, and in no other light. I had not upon my word and honour "any mistaken notion of any subsisting power or authority as governor, nor any idea or supposition of a rightful power." I had forgot the patents and the situation they were left in, till the register informed me that sundry persons had made application, and were anxious for them. This induced me to act as I did, and I took it for granted, they conceived themselves entitled to them, and would receive them on the supposition of their being signed before I left the country, when I had a right to sign them, which I do not at this time pretend to.

Though my intention was only to save expence to the parties concerned, and trouble to the land-office, I am very sorry that this matter has given any offence to your excellency and honours, and hope this short account will be satisfactory, and that you will acquit me of wishing to interfere with you. When I heard the patents, as signed, were sealed, I immediately sent the certificates to the register, to whom the patents remaining here shall be delivered on your excellency's order. I have the honour to be, with due respect, Sir, and gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

ROBERT EDEN.

His excellency governor P. A. C. A. in council.

True copy.

T. JOHNSON, jun.

Annapolis, February 17, 1784.

GENTLEMEN,

THE patents I lately received from Sir Robert Eden were delivered to him, or into his office, when he was governor of Maryland. No record of either certificates or patents was in the land-office, nor any certain memorandum of what certificates and patents they were; in his hands and in the hands of his secretary (Mr. Smith) they remained; I believe as security for the fees, until they left this country; in whose hands they then were placed I know not.

Soon after the arrival of Sir Robert, I applied to Mr. Smith for them, and received for answer, that he had delivered them to the order of Mr. Peale, late register of the land-office. I knew he was mistaken, but could not just then recollect any circumstance by which I could convince him, though soon after I remembered one, which was absolute proof of his mistake. I then intended to speak to him again; but before I had an opportunity, Mr. Clapham came to the office, and observed, that Sir Robert had told him, I had spoke to Mr. Smith about the patents; that Sir Robert said he could not exactly tell where they were, but believed they could be found (or words to that purpose), and then, in an indirect way, asked me, as I conceived, to be answerable for the fees for sealing when they were produced, alleging that, as the service was heretofore done, it would be hard he, Sir Robert, should not receive the fees. This request I refused complying with, but told him, when the people called for the patents, I would receive the fees where the parties thought proper to pay, and account for such receipts; (this I did upon a presumption that the service was done before Sir Robert left this country, and in that case there was no impropriety in receiving them). Mr. Clapham told me he would speak to Sir Robert on the subject. Not long afterwards Mr. Clapham came again to the office, and told me that the patents were found, and that they should soon be delivered into my hands. I believe I had conversation with him about them afterwards, but I cannot recollect what passed. Soon after, application being made to the office for some patents, that I believed to be in Sir Robert's hands, I directed the parties to apply to him; they applied, procured them, and presented them to me to record. Not questioning but they were legal, I entered them on record, but observing that the seal to the last was put on in a rather unusual loose manner, the thought of Sir Robert's having signed and sealed these patents since his arrival struck me, and upon reference to his name, I had greater reason to believe it, as I discovered a difference in the writing, and the ink fresher than one signed several years ago. This discovery I communicated to Gabriel Duvall, Esq; one of the gentlemen of the council, in presence of Mr. Hodgkin, and the same evening to Mr. Frederick Green, with a request that he would tell Mr. Clapham I wished to see him about this business. He told him accordingly, and with Mr. Clapham came the next morning to the office, where, in presence of Mr. Green, I told Mr. Clapham what I had discovered, and why I believed it; and that I should not consider these patents as legal acts; that I must have immediately delivered to me the whole of the papers. He intimated, I believe, that he knew nothing of the transaction, but would enquire about it. I waited that day, and not

hearing any thing from him, determined to go the next morning for the whole. I accordingly went, spoke to Mr. Smith and Mr. Clapham, and Mr. Smith went up stairs, brought several and delivered them to me. I asked Mr. Smith if he had given the whole; I believe he said yes. I carried them home, and upon examination discovered, or at least suspected, there still remained in his hands a number of others. That afternoon, or shortly afterwards, I saw Mr. Clapham, told him there were several behind, the certificates of which I must have delivered; that as to the patents signed lately I should not consider as legal acts. He told me he knew nothing of them; that it made no material difference for a few days, he would enquire of Sir Robert, who was then out of town, and if there were any I should have them. I told him I did not think it made any material difference. Thus it rested until Mr. Clapham brought me (about a week after I think) the certificates of those patents which Sir Robert lately signed.

Upon the order of the governor and council, I went and received from Mr. Smith the patents which remained in his hands, the whole of which (between fifty and sixty) appear to me to have been lately signed, but there is not a seal affixed to either of them.

One end of the tape to the seal I spoke of in the above relation was fixed firmly on one side; the other, as it appeared to me, was left loose (whether through accident or design I cannot tell) and being put through the cut at the bottom of the patent, was put into the wax on the other side of the seal, and coming loose I tied it.

Mr. Smith told me he had seals impressed from the plates before they were given up, and offered, if they were of any service, to give them to me.

When I was with Mr. Smith the second morning after the discovery of Sir Robert's signing the patents, I saw Mr. Smith receive a small memorandum and some money, which I understood was for the seal of the patent before particularly mentioned.

The foregoing is a true relation of the whole circumstances that I at present recollect as to Sir Robert Eden's possession of the patents, and his signing and sealing some of them since his arrival from Great-Britain.

I have the honour to be his excellency's and gentlemen of the council's most obedient servant,

JOHN CALLAHAN.

His excellency governor P. A. C. A.

and the honourable council. J.

True copy,

T. JOHNSON, jun.

In COUNCIL, February 21, 1784.

THE council taking into consideration the conduct of Sir Robert Eden since his return to this state, in signing a number of patents, affixing the seals to some of them, and taking the fees of office for the services,

ORDERED, That all the evidence respecting this transaction be stated and communicated to the attorney-general, to take such measures therein as he shall think proper.

Per order,

T. JOHNSON, jun. clk.

By attention to these papers, every inhabitant of Maryland will judge for himself how far *Civis* was actuated by motives of public good, or by those which *Candidus* has insinuated. To give every information to the community in matters in which they may be interested; is certainly the duty of every well affected citizen; this was the only object which *Civis* had in view, and although *Candidus* has attributed his conduct to a littleness of mind and virulence of temper, yet he has not given one reason to lead the sensible mind to such a conclusion. I never imagined that any person in Maryland, however troubled at this discovery, however friendly to the former, and inimicable to the present government, would in public avow the sentiment "that such secret and pernicious attempts should pass in silence and concealment. If *Candidus* hates this country, and contemns her government and laws, yet that regard to honour and integrity, which ought to be universal, if it has any effect upon his mind, should operate to condemn a conduct, marked with malignant designs and fraudulent intentions.

The governor and council, in that superintending care for the honour and safety of the state over which they preside, have thought the act of Sir Robert sufficiently important to engage their serious attention, and *Civis* feels himself happy, that his sentiments coincide with those of the executive. The worthy part of the inhabitants of our state will certainly receive with disgust the invectives which *Candidus* has levelled at a citizen, for pursuing a conduct dictated by a love to his country; and when they find that the executive council of Maryland, whose conduct and reputation do honour to the dignified stations they hold, are involved in the insolent censure, every honest heart will feel the utmost contempt for the assertions with which *Candidus* has attempted to deceive the public.

Annapolis, March 25, 1784.

CIVIS.

* These patents appear to me to have been signed and sealed before Sir Robert left the country.

THE ship Hendrick, John Clark, master, from Corke to Baltimore, but now at Annapolis, has on board a number of most valuable men, women and boy servants, for four years, among whom are many excellent tradesmen, to be disposed of by said Clark. Likewise,

Hyson, congo, and bohea tea, Choice mold candles. Low priced woollen clothes. Excellent blanketing, linens, corderoys, cambricks, romals, and linea handkerchiefs. Stamped cartons, neat saddles, pomatum, &c. 10/7/6

FOR SALE,

D O V E.

HE is a fire gray, upwards of fifteen and an half hands high, got by the noted old horse D. v. r. his stock noae can excel for the road; he is in good order and health; he may be seen at the subscribers at West-river. JOHN JOHNS.

N. B. Twelve months credit will be given. Bond with good security, or good draught horses, will be taken in payment.

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