head of a family shall be entitled to one hundred acres of land; and for every other head, be it white or black, fifty acres; and should a greater quantity be required by a settler, and he be approved of as an industrious man, and capable of attending to the same, such person shall be entitled to one thousand acres. No settlements are to be carried to the river or creek side. Government reserves to itself the giving of premiums to such as shall hereafter merit them, or to chastise those whose conduct may deserve the same.

Given at St. Augustine in Florida, the 20th November, 1790.

Extract of the original copy now in my hands, in which all persons may put confidence.

DOMINGO RODRIQUES LEON,
Exr. de Gov.

By the Massachusetts Spy of the 9th inst. it appears that the honourable Artemas Ward is elected a member of the house of representatives of the United States, for Worcester district, by a very small majority.

By the Cumberland Gazette it appears, that the honourable George Thatcher, Esquire, is re-elected a member of the house of representatives of the United States for the district of Maine.

*Extracts of letters from Cape-François of the 6th and 8th of November, to a gentleman in this city.*

"In my last, I mentioned that the assembly had advised the editor of *La Gazette du Jour*, to forbear publishing any thing concerning the insurrection here, which indeed was true; but I was not then apprised of the true motives of the assembly. It appears that a majority of that house are Aristocrats—indeed it is certainly so—and have consequently passed an edict, prohibiting the publishing of the grounds and progress of the revolution, or any thing concerning it. This edict you will see in the gazette of to-day, which I have enclosed.

"There are but few people here who relish the edict, regarding it merely as if a cock had crowed.

"Since writing my letter of the 6th instant, the insurrection of the mulattoes has nearly been put an end to: And yesterday the greater part of the volunteers returned, having left a few to watch the motions of the few remaining rebels, who are about 400, the rest having dispersed, and with them their leader, whose name is Oge, not Ojay, as I before wrote it, who has fled to St. Jago, in the Spanish part of the island. A reward of 1000 joes has been offered by the government for apprehending him. Thus has a dangerous insurrection been quelled by the spirited exertions of the volunteers.

CHARLESTON, *November* 30.

A schooner, the property of Mr. Kinloch, is ashore, near the bar, with 140 barrels of rice on board. She was commanded by captain Mathews, and came from George-Town; we are sorry to add, that there is very little prospect of getting her off, or saving any part of the cargo.

On the 11th September captain Anderson, on his voyage from Madeira to this port, was chased by a vessel supposed to be a Moor, for three days.

Three vessels arrived there from Morrocco, who had informed the American deputy-consul, M. Clarke, that three vessels would go to America this winter, to make a peace with the Americans; that it would have been done last winter, but upon account of the tyrannic proceedings of the late emperor, after succeeding his father, the enraged populace had torn him limb from limb; and now the second son has succeeded to that government.

## ANNAPOLIS, *Dec.* 30.

APPOINTMENTS—*December the 20th*, 1790.

The president of the United States has appointed, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, the following persons, viz.

Robert Morris, to be judge of the district of New-Jersey, in place of David Brearley, deceased.

John Heth, of Virginia, to be an ensign in the troops of the United States, in place of Richard Archer, who has declined his appointment.

John Sitgreaves, to be judge of the district of North-Carolina, in place of John Stokes, deceased.

William Hill, to be attorney for the United States in the district of North-Carolina, in place of John Sitgreaves.

Zachariah Rowland, to be surveyor of the port of Richmond, in the state of Virginia, in place of Corbin Braxton, who has resigned his appointment. And

Jeremiah Nicols, to be collector of the port of Chester, in the state of Maryland, in the place of John Scott, deceased.

"Died, at St. Inigoes, in St. Mary's county, the 21st instant, captain JOSEPH MATTINGLY."

For the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

To my correspondent, A TRUE FRIEND TO THE UNION.

THOUGH you have taken your "*leave of the subject*," I must beg liberty to make a few remarks in answer to your last.

I confess I think it high time for you to give up all appearance of opposition to liberty; and I hope no *friend to the union*, will ever attempt to fasten the iron yoke of bondage on any human creature: he that strikes at liberty, strikes at the constitution and foundation of the union.

Your apology, or reason, for not answering my arguments, stands just for nothing if I understand "*right*." Such a side stroke, with some propriety, might be advanced in favour of the oppressed, who cannot come at their "*right between individuals*," or any other way in a civil or domestic sense. Is it the want of *power*, or will, that no method is "*adopted in political government*," to remedy injustice? I conceive they *could* if they *would* empower every man in the state, who can shew his lawful claim, to come at and recover his rights; and I am truly sorry that any American should be unwilling to allow every individual his just claim. An *Indian* or a *negro* should have his due.—Nay! according to the old adage, "*give a dog his due*"—Equity demands it, deny it who can, "*Freedom is the just due of every man*; hence 'tis unjust and arbitrary not to grant it.

I cannot think any men ignorantly presume that negroes are not men or human creatures, yet they acknowledge freedom the due of all men—Why then, in the name of common sense or reason, do they deny that right to the poor forlorn creatures.

What do you mean by a "*curse metaphorically*?"—Perhaps you mean it figures out a *curse to come*? This is more awful and dreadful than as I understood you, and if any thing, should create a greater anxiety to remove it.

Let me, without any appearance of prejudice, to or against features, hair or colour, ask, what kind of freedom would it be, and what right have we to bring it about "*on exportation*?" We have no just right to export or banish any man, unless he previously violates some law, which inflicts transportation as a just punishment for his crime.—A different sentiment cannot correspond with the idea, that "*all men are born equally free, and in point of human rights to liberty, stand on equal ground*. But where would you export them to? They are as much *Americans* now as we, and we as much *Europeans* as they are *Africans*—Nothing but a mind influenced by prejudice or partiality can countermand or contemn this idea or argument.

Did you ever read CLARKSON on the impolicy of the slave trade, and on the slavery and commerce of the human species? I would recommend his essay to you and every other friend to the union, or to his fellow-creatures—The reader must feel for the oppressed, and blush for the oppressor.

Probably my thus writing gives disgust to numbers who study the art of avarice more than the rights of their fellow-creatures; but I must adhere to equity, truth and reason. Any man who will refute my arguments already advanced, and which I still have to produce, and will also offer just reasons on the contrary question, very possibly may make me his proselyte: If I know myself, I am open to conviction upon this or any other subject whatever. Let me not be condemned by those who would wish an advocate for freedom to be "shot like a squirrel;" but if they think me in an error, convince me by argument. This is intended for some few country gentlemen, who can abuse the *Freeman* easier than answer him. But, for the greater part, I understand, think and say, "the *Freeman* has justly wrote." I farther observe to such, I am not speaking to the negroes now, but to their masters, who unjustly hold their poor slaves in bondage; and some of them, by the bye, grind both back and belly.—I believe twenty, if not thirty for one, of the citizens of Maryland, will agree my cause is just; and cry out shame to those cruel avaricious masters who drive their slaves as oxen, both hungry and naked, late and early.

Your observation "*the press is free*," is matter of exultation to freemen; for the liberties of the people much depend upon the freedom of the press. *Guttemberg* and *Faustus*, the inventors of printing with type, in *Mentz*, should never be forgotten by those who wish the rights and privileges of the people held out to the public, and there defended. Through the medium of a "*free press*," justice and truth maintain their cause, and error gets the lash of reason.

What free citizen can disapprove the friendly defence of liberty, in favour of a helpless, abject, and almost friendless tribe of human creatures? I am stunned with astonishment, that any should fly in the face of the most equitable principles our country, human feelings, and nature's law can lay down in favour of the rights of men. But there is an absurd prejudice predominates over the minds of many, which will not acknowledge that an *Indian* or a *Negro* should have common justice, or that life or liberty is as dear and precious to them as us.

I cannot yet forget nor neglect to dwell a little upon the despicable inhuman treatment of slaves, which you also join heartily in reprobating. I had lately the pleasure of being in company with a respectable gentleman from Charleston, (S. C.) who feelingly told me his heart often ached to see the public sales of human species, sold there as chattels brought from *Maryland*, and elsewhere. Must it not be a tyrannical mind that would partake in such a traffic? And a callous heart not to feel affected at seeing the nearest ties of nature broken, to gratify the avarice and ambition of violent men?

Only let us go on board a vessel with its cargo of this merchandise procured, and there see the streaming eyes, the unintelligent accents of heart rending lamentations among those poor friendless creatures, torn away in a merciless manner from their nearest connexions, as tender to them as a wife, a husband, parent or child, would be to us. They have the same passions that we have, and are susceptible of the same grief or sorrow that we are. It was no wonder that a sea-captain of this state, should be so affected at this sight, that he left the vessel and cargo with the utmost abhorrence! and never more partook in the disgraceful commerce of the human species. There is something in our very nature that recoils at the thought of such cruelty, which is an argument in itself that it is a violation of nature's law.—Shocking! And is Maryland guilty of this atrocious scene? Let every man of human feeling, and principles of equity, use his influence to put a period to this cruel shameful practice.

Liberty is the first star of glory in our commonwealth, it has much emerged from its total, yet remains under a considerable eclipse; may Providence hasten the day when this bright luminary shall shine forth to all the world, and no more be obscured by despotism or tyranny, those opacous interceptors between liberty and the people.

I shall not question my *Friend, &c.* for taking his leave of the subject—but believe he is fully convinced in his own reason of the propriety of my arguments, and justice of my cause. Under this impression I conclude, hoping the cause of liberty will annually gain numerous advocates, till the abolition of slavery is effected to the glory of every nation—*America* in particular; where I hope through life to claim a right to citizenship, ever remaining a friend to all mankind.

A FREEMAN.

*An additional supplementary act to the act, entitled, An act to establish orphans courts in the several counties of this state.*

*BE it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That so much of the act of assembly, entitled, An act to establish orphans courts in the several counties of this state, and of the supplementary act thereto, as require seven justices of the peace in some of the counties of this state, and five justices of the peace in the remaining counties, to be specially named and commissioned by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, as and for the justices of the several orphans courts in this state, and as require and empower three or more of the said justices to hold such respective courts, and to hear and determine the several matters and causes committed to their jurisdiction, be and the same is hereby repealed, any thing in the said recited acts to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

*And be it enacted*, That after the passage of this act it shall be lawful for the governor for the time being, with the advice and consent of the council, and they are hereby required to appoint and commission three judicious and discreet persons, of wisdom and experience, in each respective county, as and for the justices of the orphans courts in the several counties of this state, any two or all of whom shall hold an orphans court in their respective county, at the same times and places, and in the same manner, as the several orphans courts of this state are now respectively holden; and the said justices, or any two of them, shall have, exercise and enjoy, the same power, authority and jurisdiction, to all intents and purposes, and in all respects, as the same are had, exercised and enjoyed, by the several orphans courts of this state, under and by virtue of the said recited acts, or of any law of this state which respects such power, authority and jurisdiction; and each of the said justices shall be entitled to receive the sum of fifteen shillings current money for every day he shall attend in the execution of his office, and such allowance shall be levied and collected in the same manner as other charges of the county.

*And be it enacted*, That if any person, to be appointed and commissioned in virtue of this act, shall die, resign, remove out of the county, refuse to act, or be disqualified from acting, it shall be lawful for the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, to appoint and commission another person to supply such vacancy, and the person so commissioned, after qualifying himself in the manner prescribed by the said first recited act, shall have and exercise the same power and authority, as any other justice of the orphans court.

This act to continue and remain in force until the end of the next session of assembly.

*An ACT respecting the creditors and debtors of this state.*

WHEREAS the provision for the debts of the respective states by the congress of the United States renders it essential to the interest of this state, that its creditors should subscribe to the loan proposed by congress, upon receiving a full compensation from the state for any injury which they might sustain thereby,

*Be it enacted, by the general assembly of Maryland*, That it be proposed to the creditors of this state, to subscribe to the loan proposed by the congress of the United States, by an act of the said congress, entitled, An act making provision for the debt of the United States, and the faith of this state is hereby pledged to receive from the creditors, who shall subscribe to the said loan, all certificates bearing an interest of three per cent. and all certificates bearing an interest of six per cent. after the year eighteen hundred, which the said creditors shall become entitled to by such subscription; and in exchange therefor, there shall be paid by the trustee appointed by this act, to the said respective creditors, a compensation in stock, created under the act of congress aforesaid, bearing an immediate interest of six per cent. to the full amount of the principal sums mentioned in the said certificates.

*And*, in order to establish a fund for making the said payment to the subscribing creditors, *Be it enacted*, That Benjamin Harwood, of the city of Annapolis, be and he is hereby appointed a trustee for the purpose of subscribing to the loan proposed by congress the continental paper now in the treasury of this state, and for other purposes herein after mentioned.

*And be it enacted*, That the treasurer of the western shore be and he is hereby directed to deliver to the said trustee all the continental paper now in the treasury, which may be subscribed to the said loan under the act of congress aforesaid, taking his written declaration acknowledging the receipt of the said paper as trustee of the state, and that the said trustee shall subscribe the same in his own name, and shall deliver the certificates, which he shall receive therefor from the continental commissioner, to the treasurer of the western shore.

*And be it enacted*, That when any creditor or creditors of this state, who shall subscribe to the said loan, shall produce to the said trustee, any certificate granted by the said commissioner, bearing an interest of three per cent. or any certificate granted by such commis-