

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Containing the freshest Advices Foreign and Domestic.

TUESDAY, October 28, 1746.

Mr. Green,

A M afraid that few people have consider'd the present unhappy situation of our affairs, and how insufficient our Staple is to procure us the common necessaries of life, with the attention which the subject deserves. From a neglect of this necessary attention it is, that men, especially those who have it in their power to relieve us, have omitted hitherto the necessary means for that end, altho' the distressed condition of the country seems to render it absolutely necessary. I therefore to lay before your readers a plain and short account of our case, I will suppose, That one hoghead of Tobacco in peaceable times, at 35 s. freight, which is 7 l. per ton, and insurance, would have clear'd

Suppose the owner of this hoghead sent for goods the proceeds of it, there would be a deduction of a half per cent. for commission and charges, and would have in goods, at prime cost, to the value of suppose the same, or any other, person ships one hoghead of the same weight and quality with the former, which sells at the same price by the pound as the first; and is burthened with the present freight of 13 l. per ton, and insured at 5 l. the difference in the insurance, at 20 guineas per cent.

The remaining ballance will be And suppose this man wants goods, he will find a deduction of five shillings out of every twenty, being fourth part, for freight, insurance, and other charges, amount to

This reduction will reduce the ballance, for which he will have goods, to

Five pounds per hoghead has been thought a living price; and altho' some people had more, yet, as a water cumber had not above 4 l. per hoghead, and a few from 3 l. 10 s. to 50 s. and less, we may reckon 4 l. per hoghead in an average, and see how much account will stand; and we shall find the value of goods, at prime cost, will not exceed

It is needless to carry the calculation further, as it is evident that from 3 l. to 50 s. per hoghead will bring the owners in what I mean, such as would have clear'd 3 l. or 50 s. per hoghead in peaceable times.

There are but few goods in the country, compared with the quantities which have been usually imported; and those that are brought in are sold excessively dear, and not more, but rather less than 3 s. per cent. first cost, in an average given throughout the country. The scarcity of goods obliges people to buy Tobacco at all hazards, the consequence of which has been severely felt by too many; and yet they must still ship

Our only rivals in the Tobacco Trade are the Virginians, and we have the advantage of a much better soil than they have; whence it follows, that we have it in our power to make better Tobacco, especially Oroonoko, than they can make; and yet so far are we from making use of this natural advantage, that we are in great danger of losing our trade, altho' it is our only dependence.

It will not then be amiss to compare the present condition of our Staple with that of our neighbours, wherein we shall find a very great difference in their favour.

They have plenty of goods, and their Tobacco sells currently from 14 s. to 16 s. 8 d. per cent. their Currency; which is ten per cent. better than our Gold Currency; and goods there may be bought at 100 per cent. advance of their money.

By this account, the Virginians have from 7 s. to 8 s. 4 d. per cent. first cost, in goods, for their Tobacco; the market is brought to their doors, and therefore they are not under the necessity of shipping their Tobacco.

The next thing to be considered is, Whence this great difference arises; and I believe no other cause can possibly be assigned for it, but the regulation under which their Staple is; and that the like regulation here would produce the same effect, and put our Staple upon an equality, at least, with theirs, is plain and evident.

Hence it follows, that those who have it in their power to save their country from impending ruin, will, in discharge of the trust reposed in them, use all the means within their reach.

The means are, to put our Staple under a proper regulation, which is the peculiar Province of the Legislature. And to encourage the manufacturing our Wool and Flax, wherein private persons may give an helping Hand.

I am your's, A. B.

October 5, 1746.

L O N D O N.

July 24. Tuesday morning the right hon. lord chief justice Lee, sir Martin Wright, sir Michael Foster, sir Thomas Reynolds, sir Thomas Abney, and Mr. baron Clive, went in procession to the court house on St. Margaret's hill, Southwark, where the rebels were brought to receive sentence of death, before which the lord chief justice Lee made a long and solemn speech, setting forth the heinousness of the crime they were found guilty of, and for which they were to suffer; and then passed sentence of death on the 17 following persons; viz. Francis Townley, Alexander Abernethy, Thomas Furnival, James Gadd, George Fletcher, Thomas Chadwick, William Batragh, James Dawson, Thomas Deacon, John Barwick, Andrew Blood, Christopher Taylor, John Saunderson, Thomas Siddall, Charles Deacon, James Wilder, and David Morgan, who are to be drawn, hang'd, and quartered; which sentence we hear will be executed upon them on Wednesday next at Kennington common. Some of them presented petitions to the court, and all most humbly begg'd to be recommended to his majesty for mercy.

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