

questionable honor of a visit from the mob. James Calhoun, Mayor of Baltimore, writing to Governor Johnson,¹ said that Goddard's publication of the "Queries," a piece "evidently intended to injure the character of the Commander in Chief, . . . determined the principal part of the Town to withdraw their names from the list of his subscribers, but the Officers in general thought it more incumbent on them to resent so great an insult offered to their Genl. . . ." by active measures. Accordingly, they visited Goddard, who as the result of their representations, agreed to meet them and other citizens the next morning. "Early in the morning," continued Calhoun,

"Goddard was seen parading the streets with a Gun & his friend Coll. Oswald with a drawn Sword, venting his spleen in the most abusive language. . . . This naturally tended further to enrage & by the time appointed for the meeting a large number collected and seem'd determined to make him give up the Author which he found it most prudent to do & make the recantation published in his Supplement."²

According to Goddard's account in his memorial³ to Governor Johnson, he and his friends were roughly used in this business which Calhoun described, without detail, in the letter here cited. An officer of militia interfered in his behalf and was in his turn attacked by the mob. Endeavoring to save her husband from their anger, this gentleman's wife had been "beaten and abused, with circumstances of barbarity that must have melted the flinty heart of a savage." In order to save his house from further pillage and himself from being carted through the streets with a rope around his neck by this "band of ruffians, composed of Continental recruits, mulattoes, or negroes, fifiers and drummers," he had signed and printed as a supplement to the *Maryland Journal* a paper "containing the most ridiculous and absurd concessions." He made clear his contention that he was being persecuted because of his stand for the liberty of the Press, exercised in pursuance of his conviction that it was his duty to help in the vindication of the character of General Lee, a gentleman and a patriot to whom he believed a great injustice had been done by the recent court-martial proceedings.

This was parliamentary language, as became one addressing a Governor. In his published utterances⁴ during these days, his temper was violent and his words measured up to his feelings, but he expressed himself even more vividly to one whom he met on the Annapolis road when he said,⁵

¹ *Red Book*, 3: 41.

² See Supplement *Maryland Journal*, No. 303, v. 6, Maryland Historical Society.

³ *Red Book*, 3: 38. See also *The Maryland Gazette, &c. Extraordinary*, No. 17, bound in v. 6 of *Maryland Journal*, Maryland Historical Society copy.

⁴ See v. 6 of the *Maryland Journal*, Maryland Historical Society; also *The Maryland Gazette, &c. Extraordinary*, No. 17, in same volume.

⁵ *Red Book*, 3: 42. In *The Maryland Gazette, &c. Extraordinary*, No. 17, is printed the correspondence in which Oswald vainly invited Colonel Smith, referred to in this extract, to meet him on the field of honor.