

legally founded, equally obligatory with written Laws? Can the Mayor and Aldermen alter the Sittings of their Court, from the usual and stated Times? Are they not at least antecedently to such Alteration, bound by the preceding Practice and Usage? Let them advert to a Rule of Court, Fifty Years ago, directing the Sittings of that Court: Is the Corporation bound by the Rules, and the long and uninterrupted Practice of the Mayors Court, Aye or Not? If bound, then such Rules and Practice have the Force, and Obligation of a Law, and are truly, properly and legally LAWS of the Corporation in our Judgment: With what Justice then, the Mayor and Aldermen insolently represent us, as a Set of Men, "utterly regardless of Truth," we submit to the Public, and doubt not, but the Public will detect the design of the Gentlemen, in endeavouring to induce a belief, that there is no Law or Obligation upon them, to hold a Court: For this once effected, they logically argue, if there is no Law, there can be no Violation. They may object, that a Rule of Court and the Practice are judicial and not legislative Acts, and therefore cannot Constitutionally amount to Laws. HAPPY QUIBBLE! Have Rules of Court, and the consequent Practice, the Obligation of a Law? Is the Corporation interested in the Court's Conformity to them? Can the Laws of the Corporation be executed, or Justice fairly administered without the sitting of the Court, at particular and stated Times? Has not the sitting of the Court, by a Rule and constant and invariable Practice, for a Number of Years, been fixed and settled; on the last Tuesdays of January, April, July and October? It is then an Abuse of Power, a flagrant Neglect of Duty, and a Violation of the Laws of the Corporation to hold the Mayors Court, but once in a Twelvemonth to do Business.

It is urged by the Gentlemen, "That they have continually sat upon the Days, to which they have adjourned, and proceeded to such Business, as they thought requisite." WHAT BUSINESS! —To Compliment one another, upon the Weather, or to give an Invitation; let them turn to their Records, what Proceedings will they find there, for the April, July, and October Courts? Nothing but a Meeting and an Adjournment, the great Grievance so loudly complained of by the Citizens.

It was right in the Gentlemen, to endeavour an excuse for their manifest Neglect of Duty, in not holding Court to do Business, on the respective Times of its sitting; but the excuse is idle, and false; and the People of this City will never be cajoled into a Belief, that the Court has neglected to sit from a Tenderness for them. Is it not the Opinion of every impartial Man among them, that it would be convenient, and more beneficial to this City, for the Court to meet, and transact Business regularly, upon the April, July, and October Courts, as well as upon the January Court? Is it not an obvious Truth, that there would be fewer Breaches of our Bye-Laws, and a less Number of Offences committed, under an Expectation of being forgotten, or in hopes of the Death or Removal of Witnesses? And as for the Jurors, (poor Tradesmen,) they would reap a considerable Advantage, in not being detained above a Day or two from their Occupations; whereas it is a Fact, and the last Court evinces, that the January Court-Jurors are, from the Multitude of Business, kept a full Week from their Occupations, and even in that Time, scarce able to complete above Half of it. This is not the first Time, when there has been an Abuse of Authority, that a Profession of Regard, much Friendship, and Tenderness have been thrown out, to captivate and deceive the Citizens.

The Records and Minutes of the Court can best speak, whether, "some Offenders are not brought immediately to Tryal, while others are indulged, what Time they are pleased to require;" and the Inhabitants can vouch the same: But to point out particular Instances, might expose us to a Provincial Prosecution, where some of the Gentlemen would have the disagreeable Task of being our Judges.

The Gentlemen in the 15th Article, give us a Specimen of that disregard to Truth, which they charge upon us: They alledge, "that it has been their constant and invariable Practice, without a single Instance of Deviation, whenever a Remonstrance has been presented to the Court from the Grand-Jury, to convene the Corporation, and to lay it before them." What was done with the Remonstrance, that was presented to the Court in January 1759? What was done with the Remonstrance, that was presented in January 1760? What was done with the Remonstrance, that was presented in January 1761? Was the

Corporation ever convened in Consequence of these Remonstrances, or either of them? Were these Remonstrances, or either of them, ever laid before the Corporation?—NO. We admit that the Court has frequently upon their January sitting, appointed a Meeting of the Corporation; but can they truly say, that they ever called a Corporation in Consequence of either of the above Remonstrances, or that those Remonstrances were ever laid before the Corporation for their Consideration? The Clerk of the Court will verify, and the Records speak, "That these Remonstrances of former Grand-Jurors, have been barely read and filed by their Clerk, and no further Notice taken of them." Let the Public then Judge, whether the Declaration of the Gentlemen, "that whenever a Remonstrance has been presented to the Court by the Grand-Jury, it has been their constant and invariable Practice, (without a single Instance of Deviation,) to convene the Corporation, and lay it before them," is not a most shameful Prostitution of Truth.

The Gentlemen endeavour to apologize for their Adjournment, before our Remonstrance was finished, because they acquainted us with their Resolution to break up in the Afternoon of the Day, to which they adjourned, and desired us, to dispatch the Business by that Time. This Apology is absurd; how did it happen, that the Grand-Jury had such a Multitude of Business upon Hand, as would employ them, "eight Days" beyond the usual Time of the sitting of the Court? Did not this proceed from the unwarrantable Neglect in their Worshipships to sit and do Business, at the April, July and October Courts? Had they regularly sat, and done Business at their stated, and usual Times of sitting, would there have been such employ for the January Grand Jurors? And when the Grand-Jury informed the Court, that they had so much Business as would detain them "Eight Days," with what Propriety do the Mayor and Aldermen so plausibly ask, why we did not acquaint them, with the particular Business on Hand, that they might have dispensed with their Resolution to break up? Was it not the Duty of the Court to have waited, till the Business was completed, when by their Neglect it was swelled up so considerably, that it could not be done in the usual Time? And here let us remark in Justification of our Remonstrance; "That by Neglect of their Worshipships in not sitting regularly to do Business, more than once in a Year, many Offenders escape unpunished" to the great Abuse in the Execution of the Laws.

The other Parts of our Remonstrance not answered by the Gentlemen, we shall take as admitted to be well grounded; and we doubt not but the Corporation will exert their Authority, in keeping the Public Streets and Landings open, and free from private Encroachments. It is a Fact, that the Gentlemen could not deny, that Market-Street is intirely stopp'd up by the Buildings of an Alderman of this City, this Insult upon the Community is a great Grievance, and calls loudly for Redress from the Corporation. It is also a Fact too well known by the Citizens for Contradiction, that their Worshipships at the Adjourn'd January Court in 1763, broke up on his Lordship's Birth-Day, without discharging the PETIT, or GRAND JURY, or receiving their Presentments, in the same, illegal, and unwarrantable Manner, so destructive to Public Justice, as they repeated this last Court.

As to the Reflections of the Gentlemen, that "we were misled by the Influence of an ILL ADVISER; blindly adopted whatever was dictated to us; and Fathered a Production filled with Falsehoods and Misrepresentations."—Such Calumny and Reflection we reject with Disdain and Contempt. The Remonstrance was made in consequence of repeated Complaints from the Citizens, which we knew to be well grounded; and as a GRAND JURY, it was our Duty, and constitutional Right, to draw up such a Remonstrance to the Court, and tho' prevented from presenting it, by a crafty Adjournment, yet we could not in our Consciences permit so important a Right to be trampled under Foot, and therefore we assumed what we shall ever assume on similar Occasions, "the unwarrantable Power" of making a Publication of it.

It was kind of the Mayor and Aldermen, to recommend, "an open ingenuous Confession of our Error." In return, we sincerely advise them to a REFORMATION, and that they set about it instantly, lest the Propensity of their Worshipships to Scurrility of Language, Abuse of Power, and Violation of Law, should gather Strength from Delay, and baffle a Cure.

ON the 16th Day of April 1766, Mr. John Campbell of the City of Annapolis, made Oath, That Mr. Nicholas Maccubbin, a Common-Council-Man, for the City of Annapolis, in Conversation with him, about a Year ago, relating to his Non-Attendance on the Corporation, declared, "That he never would attend the Corporation."

Sworn before,

ROBERT COUDRE,

AFTER Setting considerable Part of the foregoing Reply, Mr. Reverdy Gbistelin of this City acquainting me in a Public Company, "That he was informed from a Second Hand, that the above Piece was a LIBEL," and refusing my Request, to name his Author, I deemed it necessary to be indemnified for the Printing it, by the Gentlemen of the late Grand-Jury, who have done it; and I insert this at their Request and Desire.

JONAS GREEN.

PHILADELPHIA.

Extra of a Letter from a Gentleman in London, to his Friend in AMERICA, dated January, 1766.

FOR some Days, previous to the Meeting of Parliament, a Report had been circulated, that the Ministry had changed their Minds with regard to the STAMP-ACT, and instead of repealing, were bent upon enforcing it; if this Report did not take its Original amongst the Favourites of a certain northern Nobleman, it was much indebted to them for its Progress; which was so great as to affect the Stocks. The King's Speech, on the Meeting of the Parliament on the 14th, gave some Colour to the Suggestion: But when the Gentlemen had spoken who moved for the Address, and seconded it, nothing could be clearer, than that the Ministry had persisted in their Intentions to promote the Repeal. The Friends of the Gentlemen lately in Power, applauded the King's Speech, and approved of the proposed Address, which, as usual, had pursued the Speech exactly; but they took great Offence at the Tenderness of the Expression that the two first Gentlemen had made use of concerning America. Mr. N-g-n particularly insisted, that the Honour of the Kingdom was concerned to compel the Execution of the STAMP-ACT, until the Right was acknowledged, and the Repeal solicited as a Favour. He computed the Expence of the Troops now employed in America for their Defence, as he called it, to amount to Nine-pence in the Pound of the Land Tax to this Kingdom, while the Produce of the STAMP-ACT would not raise a Shilling a Head on the Inhabitants of America, but that a Pepper-Corn, in Acknowledgment of the Right, was of more Value than Millions without it. He failed not to expatiate on the extreme Ingratitude of the Colonies, and concluded with charging the Ministers with encouraging Petitions to the Parliament, and Instructions to Members from the trading and manufacturing Towns, against the STAMP-ACT. Mr. PITT, who, according to the before-mentioned Report, was not to have attended the House any more, but to have been created an Earl, was the next Speaker.—Every Friend to his Country rejoiced to see him when he was, and to see him in such perfect Health.—As he always begins very low, and every Body was in Agitation on his first rising, I could not hear his Introduction, till he said, "I came to Town but Yesterday. Till I heard read in this House, I was a Stranger to the Tenor of His Majesty's Speech, and the proposed Address. Unconnected, unconsulted, I have not the Means of Information. I am fearful of offending through this Mistake, and therefore beg to be indulged with a second Reading of the proposed Address." The Address being read, Mr. PITT went on, he commended the King's Speech, and approved of the Address in Answer, every Gentleman being left by it at perfect Liberty, to take such a Part concerning America, as he might afterwards see fit. One Word only he could not approve of. "Early is a Word, that does not belong to the Notice that the Ministry have given to Parliament of the Troubles in America. In a Matter of such Importance, the Communication ought to have been immediate.—I speak without respect to Parties.—I stand up in this Place single and unconnected.—As to the late Ministry (turning himself to Mr. Grenville, who sat within one of him) every capital Measure they have taken has been entirely wrong.—To the present Gentlemen, to those at least whom I have in my Eye (looking at the Bench where Mr. CONWAY sat with the Lords of the Treasury) I have no Objection; I

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Frederick Cou

Mr. GREEN,

A MALICIOUS industriously pro Character of J derick County, hastening the D Carroll's Negro Men in his Violence; and in Consequer quition being held on the appearing the least Evidence said Wasman was fully acqui moned by Anarew Heugh, having been lately reported dence by which he could h the above Accufation, was— lives in his Houfe, and wa that her Testimony should b

We the Subscribers do her quest of you to publish in yo to an injured Character, that ing sworn, was examined Evidence was in all Respects above Charge, and that the to believe, after the stricte John Wayman is entitled to Character, which he has hi

ALEXA  
ANDRE  
WILLI

T O B E S

In HENRICO County, About a Mile below the FALL at ROCKET'S

ANY Quantity of PIT to the Newcastle Coal, Bushel, heaped Measure, Coal, for One Bushel of C portion for any Quantity; 120 Tons Burthen, may lie a Blacksmiths in Virginia say, of it, they can do more W Bushels of Charcoal. Great be given to a Man that un Coal, and comes well recom Honest, and Industrious Perf April 14, 1766.

N. B. He will likewise Bushels of Coal for a Ton (6)

RAN away from the Su berland County, Virgini Samuel Holmes, by Trade Inches high, has a remark the Outside of one of his K other Servants to be on the Instep of the other Leg the he Stammers in his Speech Rolls much in his Walk: Coar, with hite Lining, expect he will change his the above Description of always discover him. He and was taken up at Chesse then had a forged Pass, a of John Harris, but his It is supposed he has got a told the other Servants he some Vessel going to Sea, of all Captains of Vessels away, but to send him on has been long in the Count Enquiry, know most Plac the Counties, and the most hlovania, Maryland, and V Whoever secures said Se had again, shall receive Fiv

ANY One who wants of the Growth of applying to ROBERT W Town, at the Mouth of W