

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1768.

WANTS EMPLOYMENT, A YOUNG MAN, bred to Store-Keeping Business, and writes a tolerable Hand. Any Gentleman, or Merchant, in Want of such a Person, will be waited on, by directing to E. B. to the PRINTING-OFFICE, at Annapolis.

THE Subscriber gives Notice to all Persons that brought Cloth to his Fulling-Mill, at the Head of South-River, to be drest before the 6th of this Instant, that it is now finished, and the Owners are desired to take it away as soon as they conveniently can. He further informs the Public, that he carries on the Business at said Mill; and those who are pleased to favour him with their Custom, may depend on their Orders being duly observed, and their Work well done, with Dispatch, and not to be disappointed, as heretofore.—All Persons that have open Accounts with him, are desired to settle and discharge the same, in so doing, they will greatly oblige their very humble Servant, JOHN DUCKER.

COMMITTED to St. Mary's County Jail, as a Runaway, Negro Anthony, who says he belongs to William Morgan, of Frederick County. His Master is desired to take him away, and pay Charges to ROBERT WATTS, Sheriff.

RAN away from the Subscriber, living on the great Road, near Abbot's Town, York County, Pennsylvania, a Servant Man, named JOHN LAMB, about 5 Feet 7 Inches high, and about 25 Years of Age, of a ruddy Complexion, long visage, brown Hair, pretty long, speaks thick, and has a stern Look, is apt to swear, and much given to drinking, and is by Trade a Taylor: Had on, when he went away, a pretty good Suit of blue Cloaths, with Brass Metal Buttons, and his Cloaths is much greased. Whoever takes up said Servant, and secures him, in any Jail, so as the Subscriber may have him again, shall receive Five Pounds Reward, and reasonable Charges, paid by Mr. George Stricker, in Frederick-Town, Maryland, Mr. Bryan Bruen, Merchant, in Winchester, or the Subscriber, living at Brax's Gap, Augusta County, Virginia.

ANNAPOLIS, February 2, 1768. To be Sold to the highest Bidder, on the 21st Day of March, at Tollie's Point, near Annapolis, for London Bills of Exchange, or Sterling Cash, a PARCEL of Country born SLAVES, Men, Women, Boys, and Girls. Time for payment will be given, to the Last Day of August, on giving Bond, with Security, if desired.

COMMITTED to Kent County Jail, on Suspicion of being Runaways, a certain William Hudson, and James Smith, who say they are servants to William Groves of Baltimore County. Their Master is desired to take them out of Jail, or they will be sold for their Fees.

WHEREAS a certain Dr. John Alexander Brown, of Frederick County, Maryland, has obtained a Bond of the Subscriber, conditioned for conveying a House and Lot, in Westminster-Town, Frederick County, to him, or his Assigns, as by said Bond may more fully appear.—This is therefore to desire all Persons whatever, to take no Assignment of said Bond, for I will not convey said House and Lot, to any Person, unless I am paid and satisfied for all Dr. Brown's Obligations, now in my Hands, for which I hold the said House and Lot, as my Security.

THE Subscriber having taken out Letters of Administration on the Estate of her late Husband, Mr. Brian Philpot, of Baltimore-Town, deceased, requests all the Creditors of the said deceased, to give her speedy Notice of the Amount of their several Claims, therein distinguishing whether they are on Bonds, Bills, Notes, or Accounts, that she may thereby be enabled to ascertain the Amount of the whole Debts, and give the Preference in the first Payments to those, who by Law, are entitled to the same. All Persons indebted to the said Estate, are desired to make speedy Payment. She requests the Indulgence of the several Creditors, that they would not commence Suits against her, and thereby burthen the Administration with Costs, as they may be assured of her Intention to discharge the Debts, and complete the Administration with all the Dispatch in her Power.

M GREEN, at the PRINTING-Office, 2s. 6d. a Year; ADVERTISEMENTS, 1 Week's Continuance. Long Ones ready Printed, most kinds of BLANKS, and all Sorts, with their proper BONDS and other of PRINTING-WORK performed

LETTERS from a FARMER in PENNSYLVANIA, to the Inhabitants of the British Colonies.

LETTER XII.

MY DEAR COUNTRYMEN, SOME States have lost their Liberty by particular Accidents: But this Calamity is generally owing to the Decay of Virtue. A People is travelling fast to Destruction, when Individuals consider their Interests as distinct from those of the Public. Such Notions are fatal to their Country, and to themselves. Yet how many are there, so covetous and so timid, as to think they perform all the Offices of Life, if they earnestly endeavour to increase their own Wealth, Power, and Credit, without the least Regard for the Society, under the Protection of which they live; who, if they can make an immediate Profit to themselves, by lending their Assistance to those, whose Projects plainly tend to the Injury of their Country, rejoice in their Dexterity, and believe themselves entitled to the Character of able Politicians. Miserable Men! Of whom it is hard to say, whether they ought to be most the Objects of Pity or Contempt: But whose Opinions are certainly as detestable, as their Practices are destructive. Tho' I always reflect, with a high Pleasure, on the Integrity and Understanding of my Countrymen, which, joined with a pure and humble Devotion to the great and gracious Author of every Blessing they enjoy, will, I hope, ensue to them, and their Posterity, all temporal and eternal Happiness; yet when I consider, that in every Age and Country, there have been bad Men, my Heart at this threatening Period, is so full of Apprehension, as not to permit me to believe, but that there may be some on this Continent, against whom you ought to be upon your Guard.—Men, who either hold, or expect to hold certain Advantages; by setting Examples of Servility to their Countrymen.—Men, who trained to the Employment, or self-taught by a natural Versatility of Genius, serve as Deceivers for drawing the Innocent and Unwary into Snares. It is not to be doubted but that such Men will diligently bestir themselves on this and every like Occasion,

* It is not intended, by these words, to throw any reflection upon gentlemen, because they are possessed of offices: For, many of them are certainly men of virtue, and lovers of their country. But, supposed obligations of gratitude, and honour, may induce them to be silent. Whether these obligations ought to be regarded or not, is not so much to be considered by others, in the judgment they form of these gentlemen, as whether they think they ought to be regarded.—Perhaps, therefore, we shall all in the properest manner towards them, if we neither reproach nor imitate them. The persons meant in this letter, are the base spirited wretches, who may endeavour to distinguish themselves by their sordid zeal in defending and promoting measures, which they know, beyond all question, to be destructive to the just rights and true interests of their country. It is scarcely possible to speak of these men with any degree of patience.—It is scarcely possible to speak of them with any degree of propriety.—For no words can truly describe their guilt and meanness.—But every honest man, on their being mentioned, will feel what cannot be expressed.

If their wickedness did not blind them, they might perceive along the coast of these colonies, many skeletons of wrecked ambition, which, after distinguishing themselves in the support of the Stamp-Act, by a courageous contempt of their country, and of justice, have been left to linger out their miserable existence, without a government, collection, stereotype, or any other commission, to console them as well as it would, for loss of virtue and reputation.—while numerous offices have been bestowed in these colonies on people from Great-Britain, and new ones are continually invented, to be thus bestowed. As a few great Prizes are put into a lottery to tempt multitudes to lose, so here and there an American has been raised to a great Post.—“ Apparet rari nantes in gurgite vasto.” Mr. Grenville, indeed, in order to recommend the Stamp-Act, had the unequalled generosity, to pour down a golden shower of offices upon Americans; and yet these ungrateful colonies did not thank Mr. Grenville for bestowing his kindness to their countrymen, nor them for accepting it. How must that great statesman have been surprized, to find, that the unpollished colonies could not be reconciled to infamy by treachery? Such a bountiful disposition towards us, never appeared in any minister before him, and probably never will appear again: For it is evident, that such a system of policy is to be established on this continent, as, in a short time, is to render it utterly unnecessary to use the least art in order to conciliate our approbation of any measures. Some of our countrymen may be employed to fix chains upon us, but they will never be permitted to hold them afterwards. So that the utmost, that any of them can expect, is only a temporary provision, that may expire in their own Time; but which, they may be assured, will preclude their children from having any consideration paid to them. Natives of America must sink into total NEGLECT and CONTEMPT, the moment that their country loses the constitutional powers she now possesses. Most sincerely do I wish and pray, that every one of us may be convinced of this great truth; that industry and integrity are the only paths of happiness, which lead to happiness.

to spread the Infection of their Meanness as far as they can. On the Plans they have adopted, this is their Course. This is the Method to recommend themselves to their Patrons.

From them we shall learn, how pleasant and profitable a Thing it is, to be for our SUBMISSIVE Behaviour well spoken of at St. James's, or St. Stephen's; at Guildhall, or the Royal Exchange. Specious Fallacies will be drest up with all the Arts of Delusion, to persuade one Colony to distinguish herself from another, by unbecoming Condescensions, which will serve the ambitious Purposes of great Men at home, and therefore will be thought by them to entitle their Assistance in obtaining to them considerable Rewards.

Our Fears will be excited. Our Hopes will be awakened. It will be intimated to us, with a plausible Affectation of Wisdom and Concern, how prudent it is to please the Powerful—how dangerous to provoke them—and then comes in the perpetual Incantation that freezes up every generous Purpose of the Soul, in cold, inactive Expectation.—“that if there is any Request to be made, Compliance will obtain a favourable Attention.”

Our Vigilance and our Union are Success and Safety. Our Negligence and our Division are Distress and Death. They are worse.—They are Shame and Slavery. Let us equally shun the benumbing Stillness of overweening Sloth, and the feverish Activity of that ill informed Zeal, which bustles itself in maintaining little, mean, and narrow Opinions. Let us, with a truly wise Generosity, and Charity, banish and discourage all illiberal Distinctions, which may arise from Differences in Situation, Forms of Government, or Modes of Religion. Let us consider ourselves as MEN—FREEMEN—CHRISTIAN FREEMEN—separated from the rest of the World, and firmly bound together by the same Rights, Interests and Dangers. Let these keep our Attention inflexibly fixed on the GREAT OBJECTS, which we must CONTINUALLY REGARD, in order to preserve those Rights, to promote those Interests, and to avert those Dangers.

Let these Truths be indelibly impressed on our Minds—that we cannot be HAPPY, without being FREE—that we cannot be free, without being secure in our Property—that we cannot be secure in our Property, if, without our Consent, others may, as by Right, take it away—that Taxes imposed on us by Parliament, do thus take it away—that Duties laid for the sole Purpose of raising Money, are Taxes—that Attempts to lay such Duties should be instantly and firmly opposed—that this Opposition can never be effectual, unless it is the united Effort of these Provinces—that therefore BENEVOLENCE of Temper towards each other, and UNANIMITY of Councils, are essential to the Welfare of the Whole.—And, lastly, that for this Reason, every Man amongst us, who in any Manner would encourage either Dissensions, Differences, or Indifferences, between these Colonies, is an Enemy to himself, and to his Country.

The Belief of these Truths, I verily think, my Countrymen, is indispensably necessary to your Happiness. I beseech you, therefore, “to teach them diligently unto your Children, and talk of them when you sit in your Houses, and when you walk by the Way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up.”

What have these Colonies to ask, while they continue free? Or what have they to dread, but insidious Attempts to subvert their Freedom? Their Prosperity does not depend on Ministerial Favour, deled out to particular Provinces. They form one Political Body, of which each Colony is a Member. Their Happiness is founded on their Constitution; and is to be promoted, by preserving that Constitution in unabated Vigour, throughout every Part. A Spot, a Speck of Decay, however small the Limb on which it appears, and however remote it may seem from the Vitals, should be alarming. We have all the Rights requisite for our Prosperity. The legal Authority of Great-Britain may indeed lay hard Restrictions upon us; but like the Spear of Telephus, it will cure as well as wound. Her Unkindness will instruct and compel us, after some Time, to discover, in our Industry and Frugality, surprising Remedies—if our Rights continue unviolated: For, as long as the Products of our Labour, and the Rewards of our Care, can properly be called our own, so long it will be worth our while to be industrious and frugal. But if, when we plow—sow—reap—gather—and thresh—we find, that we plow—sow—reap—gather—and thresh for others, whose PLEASURE is to be the SOLE LIMITATION how much they shall take; and how much they shall leave, why should we repeat the unprofitable Toil? Horses and Oxen are content with that Portion of the Fruits of their Work, which their Owners assign them, in order to keep them strong enough to raise successive Crops; but even these Beasts will not submit to draw for their Masters, until they are subdued by Whips and Goads. Let us take Care of our Rights, and we therein take Care of our Prosperity. “SLAVERY IS EVER PRECEDED BY SLEEP.” Individuals may be dependant on Ministers, if they please. STATES SHOULD SCORN IT;—and if you are not wanting to yourselves, you will have a proper Regard paid you by those, to whom if you are not respectable, you will be contemptible. But—if we have already forgot the Reasons that urged us, with unexampled Unanimity, to exert ourselves Two Years ago.—If our Zeal for the Public Good is worn out before the homely Sun Cloaths, which it caused us to have made—if our Re-

solutions are so faint, as by our present Conduct, to condemn our own late successful Example—if we are not affected by any Reverence for the Memory of our Ancestors, who transmitted to us that Freedom in which they had been blest—if we are not animated by any Regard for Posterity, to whom, by the most sacred Obligations, we are bound to deliver down the invaluable Inheritance.—THEN, indeed, any Minister—or any Tool of a Minister—or any Creature of a Tool of a Minister—or any lower Instrument of Administration, if lower there be, is a Personage whom it may be dangerous to offend.

I shall be extremely sorry, if any Man mistakes my Meaning in any Thing I have said. Officers employed by the Crown, are, while according to the Laws, they conduct themselves, entitled to legal Obedience, and sincere Respect. These it is a Duty to render them; and these no good or prudent Person will withhold. But when these Officers, thro' Rashness or Design, desire to enlarge their Authority beyond its due Limits, and expect improper Concessions to be made to them, from regard for the Employments they bear, their Attempts should be considered as equal Injuries to the Crown and People, and should be courageously and constantly opposed. To suffer our Ideas to be confounded by Names on such Occasions, would be an inexcusable Weakness, and probably an irremediable Error.

We have Reason to believe, that several of his Majesty's present Ministers are good Men, and Friends to our Country; and it seems not unlikely, that by a particular Concurrence of Events, we have been treated a little more severely than they wished we should be. They might not think it prudent to stem a Torrent. But what is the Difference to us, whether arbitrary Acts take their Rise from Ministers, or are permitted by them? Ought any Point to be allowed to a good Minister, that should be denied to a bad one? The Mortality of Ministers, is a very frail Mortality.

* “Instrumenta Regni.” Tacitus's Ann. Book 12, §. 66.

† “If any person shall imagine that he discovers, in these letters, the least dissatisfaction towards our most excellent sovereign, and the parliament of Great-Britain, or dislike of the dependance of these colonies on that kingdom, I beg that such person will not form any judgment on particular expressions, but will consider the tenor of all the letters taken together. In that case, I flatter myself, that every unprejudiced reader will be convinced, that the true interests of Great-Britain are as dear to me, as they ought to be to every good subject.

“If I am an Enthusiast in any thing, it is in my zeal for the perpetual dependance of these colonies on their mother country.—A dependance founded on mutual benefits, the continuance of which can be secured only by mutual affections. Therefore it is, that with extreme apprehension, I view the smallest seeds of discontent, which are unwarily scattered abroad. Fifty or Sixty years will make astonishing alterations in these colonies; and this consideration should render it the business of Great-Britain more and more to cultivate our good dispositions towards her: But the misfortune is, that those great men, who are warring for power at home, think themselves very slightly interested in the prosperity of their country Fifty or Sixty years hence, but are deeply concerned in blowing up a popular clamour for supposed immediate advantages.

“For my part, I regard Great-Britain as a Bulwark happily fixed between these colonies and the powerful nations of Europe. That kingdom is our advanced post or fortification, which remaining safe, we, under its protection, enjoying peace, may diffuse the blessings of religion, science, and liberty, thro' remote wildernesses. It is therefore inconceivably our duty and our interest to support the strength of Great-Britain. When, confiding in that strength, she begins to forget from whence it arose, it will be an easy thing to shew the source. She may readily be reminded of the loud alarm spread among her merchants and tradesmen, by the universal association of these colonies, at the time of the Stamp-Act, not to import any of her MANUFACTURES.

“In the Year 1718, the Russians and Swedes entered into an agreement, not to suffer Great-Britain to export any NAVAL STORES from their dominions, but in Russian or Swedish ships, and at their own prices. Great-Britain was distressed. Pitch and tar rose to Three Pounds a barrel. At length the thought of getting these articles from the colonies; and the attempt succeeding, they fell down to Fifteen Shillings. In the Year 1756, Great-Britain was threatened with an invasion. An easterly Wind blowing for six weeks, she could not MAN her fleet, and the whole Nation was thrown into the utmost consternation. The wind changed. The American Ships arrived. The fleet failed in ten or fifteen days. There are some other reflections on this subject, worthy of the most deliberate attention of the British parliament; but they are of such a nature, that I do not chuse to mention them publicly. I thought that I discharged my duty to my country, by taking the liberty, in the year 1765, while the Stamp-Act was in suspense, of writing my sentiments to a gentleman of the greatest influence at home, who afterwards distinguished himself, by espousing our cause, in the debates concerning the repeal of that act.

‡ Ubi imperium ad ignarus aut minus bonos pervenit; novum illud exemplum, ab dignis & idoneis, ad indignos & non idoneos transfertur. Sall. Bell. Cat. § 30.

* Deuteroni. vi. 7. † Montesquie's Spirit of Laws; Book 14, Chap. 13.