[XXIVth YEAR.] THE [No. 1210.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1768.

LONDON, *August* 27.

From the WESTMINSTER JOURNAL.

WHEN I consider how very unpopular Mr. George Grenville was universally considered, during the Time of his Administration, it surprizes me extremely to find, that any real Wellwisher to the Kingdom, can possibly support his Measures. Yet such is the strange Perverseness of the Times, that tho' his coercive Laws on America, are condemned by every dispassionate Englishman, there are many who still think it necessary to support these Laws, from an absurd Imagination, that the Authority of the Mother-Country must be inevitably lessened, unless she consents to support an actual Injustice. Let us reflect a Moment upon the Nature of this public Infatuation. An injudicious Minister makes a preposterous or a tyrannical Law, to oppress a large Part of our Fellow-Subjects, and tells us that our Honour is absolutely engaged to force this Law upon Three Millions of People, who have every Whit as much Title to Liberty as ourselves. Well, notwithstanding the evident Incongruity of this Reasoning, and notwithstanding we are convinced in our Hearts, that the Law, which we are thus called upon to countenance, is no less impolitic than inequitable, we immediately give our Assistance to the very Minister we disapprove, and tho' we hunt him out of Office, for his Incapacity, we think ourselves indispensably obliged to pursue his unaccountable System of Politics; we think that we are compelled by Honour to take the Part of Injustice, and imagine, that our Glory renders it requisite for us, beyond Contradiction, to violate every Principle of Humanity.

That we have the *Power* to force the Americans into Slavery, I readily admit, but who can take upon him to assert, that we have the *Right?* It does not follow, because we are *formidable*, that we should be *unjust*; nor is it consistent, with our Credit, as Lovers of *Liberty*, that we should tread a brave, and a generous Part of our Fellow-Subjects, into *Slaves:* By acting in this Manner, we become the actual Tools of Government, and are, in Reality, doing the dirtiest of all Work for a Minister, at the Moment we think ourselves supporting the necessary Lustre of our Reputation.

A Number of Politicians have proposed various Manners of removing the unhappy Differences at present subsisting between the Mother-Country and her Colonies; but the readiest Way of reducing the Americans into Temper, is to give them no reasonable Cause of Complaint. People who groan under the Hand of Oppression, *will* complain, and if they have any Ideas of Freedom, they will not tamely submit to Injustice. Let the Mother-Country, therefore, shew some Marks of her paternal Affection, if she wishes to receive a willing Obedience from her American Children: O! but it will be asked, Must the Mother-Country be the first to make Concessions? Must she stoop to an obstinate People, whom she is able to overpower by her Force? To this I answer, that there is more Meanness in doing wrong, than in acting justly; and, if the Americans have been injured, they ought to be redressed. Should our Redress, at any Period hereafter, excite them to the Presumption of disobeying our just Authority, we shall have it in our Power to punish them; but, til they disobey those Laws, which we have an equitable Right to establish for their Government, don't let us think of chastising them. 'Tis not the Authority of the British Nation they resist, but the impolitic, the illegal Measure of an injudicious Minister, whom we ourselves hold in general Disestimation: This Minister has oppressed them; don't let us countenance Oppression: This Minister has laboured to enslave Three Millions of freeborn Englishmen: Don't let us be the Friends of Tyranny, and support the Propriety of enslaving our own Fellow-Subjects. The Americans have been injured; don't let us destroy them for being unfortunate; nor, through a mistaken Principle of Honour, sacrifice every Dictate of Justice, and every Tie of Humanity. Let us not be offended with our Fellow-Subjects, for maintaining the Cause of universal Freedom, and resisting the tyrannical Attempts of an arbitrary Administration. We have no Right to do wrong: We have no Right to take away any Man's Property against his own Consent; and, if the Precedent could once be established, it will prove the Destruction of our Constitution. The Argument of Power is a dreadful one! The same Force that enables us to plunder America, may lead us to plunder Ireland and Scotland: When we have done this, England will have nobody to conquer but herself: The strongest County will then claim the Sovereignty, and, like the Dragon's Teeth, we shall fight each other to Death. GOD send us Wisdom and Moderation; the present Hour is indeed a critical one, and no Measures should be adopted, but what are fully warranted by

JUSTICE and HUMANITY.

BOSTON, *October* 31.

Last Friday, the following Address was presented to General Gage, by several Gentlemen of the Council, in Behalf of themselves, and the other Members who subscribed it, being all that were present.

To his Excellency General GAGE, *Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in America.*

The ADDRESS of the Subscribers, Members of his Majesty's Council of the Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

SIR,

A GENERAL Council being held Yesterday, gives the distant Members of it, together with the Members in the Town and Neighbourhood, the Pleasure of addressing you.—We take this first Opportunity of doing it; and, at the same Time, to pay our Compliments to your Excellency.

In this Time of public Distress, when the General Court of the Province is in a State of Dissolution; when the Metropolis is possessed by Troops, and surrounded by Ships of War; and when more Troops are daily expected, it affords a general Satisfaction, that your Excellency has visited the Province, and has now an Opportunity of knowing the State of it, by your own Observation and Enquiry.

Your own Observation will give you the fullest Evidence, that the Town and Province are in a peaceful State—Your own Enquiry will satisfy you, that tho' there have been Disorders in the Town of Boston, some of them did not merit Notice; and that such as did, have been magnified beyond the Truth,

Those of the 18th of March and 10th of June, are said to have occasioned the above-mentioned Armament to be ordered hither.—The first was trivial, and could not have been noticed to the Disadvantage of the Town, but by Persons inimical to it; especially as it happened in the Evening of a Day of Recreation. The other was criminal, and the Actors in it were guilty of a Riot; but we are obliged to say, it had its Rise from those Persons who were loudest in their Complaints about it, and who, by their overcharged Representations of it, have been the Occasion of so great an Armament being ordered hither. We cannot persuade ourselves to believe they have sufficient Evidence to support such Representations; which have most unjustly brought into Question the Loyalty of as loyal a People as any in his Majesty's Dominions.

This Misfortune has arisen from the Accusation of interested Men, whose Avarice having smothered in their Breasts every Sentiment of Humanity towards this Province, has impelled them to oppress it to the utmost of their Power; and, by the Consequences of that Oppression, essentially to injure Great-Britain.

From the Candor of your Excellency's Sentiments, we assure ourselves you will not entertain any Apprehension, that we mean to justify the Disorders and riotous Proceedings that have taken Place in the Town of Boston. We detest them, and have repeatedly and publickly expressed that Detestation; and, in Council, have advised Governor Bernard to order the Attorney-General to prosecute the Perpetrators of them; but, at the same Time, we are obliged to declare, in Justice to the Town, that the Disorders of the 10th of June last, occasioned by a Seizure made by the Officers of the Customs, appear to have originated with those who ordered the Seizure to be made. The Hour of making the Seizure, (at, or near Sunset) the Threats and armed Force, used in it, the forcibly carrying the Vessel away, and all in a Manner unprecedented, and calculated to irritate, justify the Apprehension that the Seizure was accompanied with these extraordinary Circumstances, in order to excite a Riot, and furnish a plausible Pretence for requesting Troops.—A Day or Two after the Riot, and, as if in Prosecution of the last mentioned Purpose, notwithstanding there was not the least Insult offered to the Commissioners of the Customs, either in their Persons or Property, they thought fit to retire, on the Pretence of Security to themselves, on board the Romney Man of War, and afterwards to Castle-William; and when there, to keep up the Idea of their being still in great Hazard, procured the Romney, and several other Vessels of War, to be so stationed, as to prevent an Attack upon the Castle, which they affected to be afraid of.

These Proceedings have doubtless taken Place, to induce a Belief among the Officers of the Navy and Army, as they occasionally came hither, that the Commissioners were in Danger of being attacked, and to procure, from those Officers, Representations coincident with their own, that they really were so. But their frequent landing on the Main, and making Excursions into the Country, where it would have been easy to have seized, if any Injury had been intended them, demonstrates the Insincerity of their Declarations, that they immured themselves at the Castle for Safety. This is rather to be accounted for, as being an essential Part of the concerted Plan for procuring Troops to be quartered here; in which they and their Coadjutors have succeeded to their Wish; but unhappily to the mutual Detriment and Uneasiness of both Countries.

We thought it absolutely necessary, and our Duty to the Town and Province required us, to give your Excellency this Detail, that you might know the Sentiments of this People, and that they think themselves injured, and injured by Men to whom they have done no Injury.—From the Justice of your Excellency, we assure ourselves your Mind will not admit of Impressions to their Disadvantage, from Persons who have done the Injury.

Your Excellency, in your Letter to Governor Bernard, of the 12th of September, gave Notice, that One of the Regiments from Halifax, was ordered, for the present, to Castle-William, and the other to the Town; but you was pleased afterwards to order both of them into the Town.

If your Excellency, when you know the true State of the Town, which we can assure you is quite peaceable, shall think his Majesty's Service does not require those Regiments to continue in the Town, it will be a great Ease and Satisfaction to the Inhabitants, if you will please to order them to Castle-William, where commodious Barracks are provided for their Reception; or to Point-Shirley, in the Neighbourhood of it; in either of which, or in both, they can be well accommodated.

As to the Two Regiments expected here from Ireland, it appears by Lord Hillsborough's Letter, of the 30th of July, they were intended for a different Part of North America.

If your Excellency shall think it not inconsistent with his Majesty's Service, that they should be sent to the Place of their first Destination, it will contribute to the Ease and Happiness of the Town and Province, if they might be ordered thither.

As we are true and faithful Subjects of his Majesty, have an affectionate Regard for the Mother-Country, and a tender Feeling for our own, our Duty to each of them makes us wish, and we earnestly beg your Excellency, to make a full Enquiry into the Disorders above mentioned; into the Causes of them, and the Representations that have been made about them; in doing which, your Excellency will easily discover, who are the Persons that, from lucrative Views, have combined against the Peace of this Town and Province: Some of whom, it is probable, have discovered themselves already, by their own Letters to your Excellency.

In making the Enquiry, though many Imprudencies, and some criminal Proceedings may be found to have taken Place, we are persuaded, from the Candor, Generosity and Justice, that distinguish your Character, your Excellency will not charge the Doings of a few Individuals, and those of an inferior Sort, upon the Town and Province. And with regard to those Individuals, if any Circumstances shall appear justly to extenuate the Criminality of their Proceedings, your Excellency will let them have their Effect.—On the same Candor, Generosity and Justice, we can rely, that your Excellency's Representations of this Affair to his Majesty's Ministers, will be such, as even the Criminals themselves shall allow to be just. *Samuel Danforth, John Hill, Isaac Royall, John Erving, James Bowdoin, Gam. Bradford, Thomas Hubbard, Nath. Sparhawk, Harrison Gray, James Russell, John Bradbury, Royal Tyler, Samuel White, James Pitts, Samuel Dexter.*

BOSTON, *October* 27, 1768.

To the foregoing ADDRESS, the GENERAL gave the following ANSWER:

To the Honourable Messieurs Danforth, Hill, Royall, Erving, Bowdoin, Bradford, Hubbard, Sparhawk, Gray, Russell, Bradbury, Tyler, White, Pitts, *and* Dexter, *Member of his Majesty's Council of the Province of* Massachusetts-Bay.

GENTLEMEN,

I RETURN you Thanks for the Honour you do me in this Address, and am greatly obliged to you, for the good Opinion you are pleased to conceive of me.

Whatever may have been the particular Causes of the Disturbances and Riots, which have happened in the Town of Boston, those Riots, and the Resolves which were published, have induced his Majesty to order Four Regiments to this Town, to protect his loyal Subjects, in their Persons and Properties, and to assist the Civil Magistrates in the Execution of the Laws.

The Discipline and Order which will be preserved amongst the Troops, I trust, will render their Stay in no Shape distressful to his Majesty's dutiful Subjects in this Town; and that the future Behaviour of the People, will justify the best Construction of their past Actions, which I flatter myself will be such as to afford me a sufficient Foundation, to represent to his Majesty, the Propriety of withdrawing the most Part of the Troops.

BOSTON, *October* 28, 1768. THOMAS GAGE.

Extract of a Letter from London, August 30.

"The 13th Regiment of Foot, commanded by Major General James Murray, embarked at Dover for Cork, on the 9th Instant. They were at first designed to replace the Troops destined for New-England, but we are now assured that they will accompany these Troops to Boston. General Murray has just resigned