

N E W T H E A T R E

M. R. Douglas begs Leave to acquaint the Gentlemen, who have subscribed to the new Theatre in Annapolis, that all the Materials for the Building are now purchased, and Workmen engaged to complete it by the First of September: He assures them, that nothing will be wanting on his Part, nor on the Parts of the Gentlemen who have undertaken to superintend the Work, to render it as commodious and elegant as any Theatre in America. He has sent to London to engage some Performers, and expects them, and a new Set of Scenes, painted by Mr. Doll, in a few Weeks. In short, the Publick, whose Favours he most gratefully acknowledges, will be convinced, by the Efforts he makes to entertain them, that he has a proper Sense of their Goodness, and an unremitting Desire to make every Return in his Power, for the Obligations he is under to them.

He would esteem it as a very great Favour, if the Gentlemen who have neglected to pay their Subscription Money, will be good enough to send it as soon as possible, as the Sum collected, is by no Means sufficient to answer the necessary Demands that will very soon be made.

ANNAPOLIS, June 6, 1771.

WHEREAS the Justices of Dorchester County Court, were empowered, by an Act passed at the last Sessions of Assembly, to levy on the taxable Inhabitants of said County, a Sum not exceeding Two Hundred Thousand Pounds of Tobacco, for the Purpose of building a Court-House; and we the Subscribers were therein appointed Commissioners, and authorized to contract for the doing and completing the same.

We do therefore hereby give Notice, that we shall attend, for that Purpose, at the Town of Cambridge, in the County aforesaid, on every Monday from the Date hereof, until the last Day of August next, when we shall be ready to contract with any Undertaker that may offer, on his giving Security for the Performance of his Agreement (if required)

Charles Dickinson, Robert Goldborough, William Ennals, Robert Harrison, John Goldborough.

Annapolis, June 13, 1771.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are taken in by Samuel Harvey Howard, at his Store, opposite Mr. Thomas Hyde's for the following Books, viz.

HUME's elegant HISTORY OF ENGLAND, in Eight Volumes Octavo, at One Dollar each Volume, which is only Eight Dollars for the whole Set, altho' the Quarto Edition is sold at Thirty Dollars.

BLACKSTONE's splendid COMMENTARIES on the LAWS OF ENGLAND, in Four Volumes Royal Octavo, Page for Page with the London Edition, at Two Dollars each Volume, which is only Eight Dollars for the whole Set, altho' the British Edition is sold at Twenty-six Dollars. Also, FERGUSON's celebrated ESSAY on the HISTORY of CIVIL SOCIETY, in One Volume Octavo, at One Dollar, altho' the British Edition is sold at Four Dollars.

No Money expected, except on the Delivery of each Volume. N. B. The said Howard has just opened a neat Assortment of Broad Cloths, Casimier, Sagothies, Jeans, Camblets, Fustians, Nankeens, Linens, Sheeting, Checks, striped Hollands, printed Linens, Cottons, Calicoes, white ditto, Hummums, Perlians, Cambricks, plain and flowered Lawn, worked ditto for Aprons, best Bohemian Tea, Sugar, Coffee, and some very fine Durham Mustard.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY, A PERSON who is well qualified in the Business of burning BRICKS. Such a one will meet with proper Encouragement, by applying to the Subscriber. JAMES HUTCHINGS.

COMMITTED to Anne-Arundel County Jail as a Runaway, a certain JOHN KING, an elderly Man, about 5 Feet 9 Inches high: His Apparel a white Linen Frock, a black flowered Waistcoat, and old Leather Breeches. His Master is desired to take him away and pay Charges, to JOHN CLAPHAM, Sheriff.

Calvert County, June 5, 1771.

THERE are in my Custody, committed as Runaways, Two Men, viz. John Graves, a well made Man, about 5 Feet 10 Inches high, of a ruddy Complexion; has on a Country Cloth Jacket, Olmabrig Shirt, check Trowsers, old Shoes, and Felt Hat. John Barfit, about 5 Feet 7 or 8 Inches high, of a brown Complexion, has several large Warts on the Back of his right Hand; his Cloathing is a Country Cloth Jacket, Olmabrig Shirt, old greasy Leather Breeches, old Pumps and Felt Hat. They are both young, and say they belong to Col. Tayloe, of Virginia. Their Owner is requested to take them away and pay Charges. ALEXANDER SOMERVELL, Sheriff.

THOSE who are possessed of Carrollburg Tickets, are desired to acquaint the Trustees with their Numbers, that the Deeds made be executed without Delay; and those who have not paid must be prepared to do it on the Delivery of the Deeds,

mature Deliberation, I beg Leave to lay before you, and, by your Means, before the rest of my Brethren, my real Sentiments thereon.

I am extremely sensible, and fully convinced of the Truth of your Observation (no doubt intended as an exciting Motive to join in the Address), how greatly this Alteration must affect me; perhaps more than any other Clergyman in the Province; as this Parish did not net 19000lb. which will surely, if the Alteration takes Place, be far from an adequate Support for so numerous a Family as mine: Yet, when I reflect, that I have not the least Reason to suppose, that the Legislature ever did, or do intend, to deprive the established Clergy of a decent and becoming Support; that, even the Four Shillings per Taxable, will be fully sufficient, amounting, if I am not greatly mistaken, to near £. 400 per Annum in each Parish, if equally, and I will add equitably and justly divided, and greatly increasing every Year; that, though those who enjoy small Livings (which is my Case) must be greatly affected, yet, such is the Imperfection of all human Institutions, that Individuals must be Sufferers, and ought to submit, when it is productive of a greater and more general Good; that I look upon the supreme Legislature to be the sole Judges of what is a proper Allowance to the Clergy, and to have an absolute Right to repeal any former Act, as well as Power to increase or diminish that Allowance, when, in what Manner, and in what Proportion they shall think fit; that although I am sensible, any Individual, as well as any particular Body of the Community, have an undoubted Right to petition the supreme Authority, to redress any Grievance or Hardship under which they may suppose themselves to labour; yet, in the Matter of the intended Alteration, it was too coolly, too repeatedly, and too long considered, weighed and re-considered, that I believe the Clergy would be extremely perplexed, to lay before them any new Motive to induce the Two Houses to recede from their seemingly fixed, and, I must think, just Determination; especially, as during the whole of that long Session, they never took any One Step to oppose it, but seemingly at least cheerfully acquiesced in it; that the saving by such Deduction, joined to that of the Lawyers, Officers, &c. must be a very great Ease to the People in general, and the poorer Sort in particular, who rarely ought to be the peculiar Objects, above all other Men, of the Clergy's Benevolence and Beneficence; that no other Body of Men, that I have heard of, ever proposed taking such a Step, but have cheerfully expressed their Willingness to submit to the proposed Alteration; that should the Clergy be the first to set the Example, it would surely be extremely and justly surprising, and greatly, I apprehend, increase, if not confirm a Prejudice long entertained by the Laity (I would willingly hope without Foundation), that the Clergy, however they may preach against an inordinate Love of the World, of Pleasure, Power, Honour, and Wealth, yet were of all others most tenacious of their real or supposed temporal Rights, the most eager and assiduous in their Pursuit after Wealth, the most negligent of their sacred Duty, and most loose in their Morals; When Opinion, if universally prevalent, must greatly lessen their ministerial Influence among their People, and consequently their Power of being extensively useful, when it was observed, that their Practice was a continued, undeniable, and notorious Contradiction to their Doctrine and Preaching. For these Reasons, I chuse to decline the Meeting at Mrs. Humphrey's on Thursday next, as I apprehend many ill, but cannot even form a Hope of any One good Consequence from it. Be assured I am, with my due Respects to my Reverend Brethren and yourself, that and

Jan. 21, 1771. Your Brother and Servant, MATTHIAS HARRIS.

To the Reverend Mr. Hugh Neille, Rector of St. Paul's, in Queen Anne's County.

In Answer to the foregoing, I received the following Letter from the Reverend Mr. Neille.

To the Reverend Mr. Harris, Rector of Christ-Church, Kent-Island.

Reverend Sir, May 25, 1771. In Consequence of your Request, I communicated your Letter to a Meeting of the Eastern Shore Clergy, last Wednesday at Talbot Court-House, where Fifteen appeared, and Two acted by Deputation, after it was read, the Clergy ordered the following Opinion thereof to be entered on their Minutes—and a Copy of the same to be by me transmitted to you.

It is the unanimous Opinion of the Clergy, That Mr. Harris's Letter favoured more of Hypocrisy than Truth, and was peevishly dashed with Forgery and Falshoods. The Clergy do heartily and sincerely wish, that as the People of Kent-Island seem to be so much pleased with the Letter Writer, and that as he himself appears to be quite contented with his Situation, that he may continue in that Parish to the End of his Days.

A true Copy. John Gordon, President. John Montgomery, Clerk.

I have nothing more to add, but that I am, with all due Regard, Your Brother, and very humble Servant, HUGH NEILL.

P. S. My Compliments to Mrs. Harris and Family. A true Copy from the original Letter of Mr. Neille. Test. MATTHIAS HARRIS.

Chester-Town, June 6, 1771.

WE have a very large and general Assortment of European and East-India Goods, just arrived from London, Bristol and Glasgow, which we shall sell, either at Wholesale or Retail, on very reasonable Terms. Our Correspondents have, thro' Misapprehension, shipped an over Quantity of 8 d. 10 d. 12 d. and 20 d. Nails, for which we will take prime Cost and Charges.

(3w) THOMAS RINGGOLD & SON.

that the great Seal was not affixed to it till Two Days after it had actually appeared in the Gazette. The Reason of it was this: When the Affair was debated in Council, the new Chappellor declared vehemently against the Legality of the Proclamation, and absolutely refused to put the Seal to it without an express Mandate, and when at length he received the Mandate, he declared that the Measure was contrary to his Opinion and Advice.

Lord North, in going to the House, was very near being Despatched: His Hand was very much wounded, when he held forth to the House and wept, and it was said, but he met not with the generous Applause he justly deserved, if he could have stretched forth his bloody Hand, and said, Haec Manus ob Patriam pugnavit Vulnera passa.

How ridiculous is it to assume a Power which cannot be maintained! The Printers bid Deniance to the House by Common, and continue to give the Speeches to the Publick—even the Speeches made in the Cafe of their Brethren, who have been censured for such Kind of Publications.

The late most ignominious Convention will not, it is generally thought, prevent a War. A War, especially if the Indignity offered to the City, must of course disturb the present Administration. This Consideration gives great Alarm: For such is the prevailing Corruption, that hardly any Point of national Interest will be regarded, when this cannot be preserved, and Administration be supported at the same Time, and Administration the Danger that such Men, who must turn out if there be a War, will sacrifice any Thing to prevent it, that they may keep in!

TO THE P R I N T E R.

IT is with a real Concern, that I find myself under the disagreeable Necessity of requesting you to publish the Two enclosed Letters in your next Week's Gazette.

How far any Thing in my Letter to Mr. Neill can be said of justifying the very severe Charge and Censure of the Eastern Shore Clergy, of Hypocrisy, Forgeries, and Falshoods, for upon that Letter, and that alone, they are founded, I refer to the impartial Part of Mankind, and to their unbiaised Decision I entirely submit it.

I cannot avoid expressing the real Satisfaction I feel in the Declaration of those reverend Gentlemen, of the favourable Sentiments of the People of Kent-Island towards me: So publish a Libel on my most respectful Set of Me, as the collective Body of the Eastern Shore Clergy (who are so justly and not greatly prejudiced in my Favour) is so much to my Honour, and coming from such unbiaised Hands, that, as it deserves, so it is as all the Thanks that are due to it.

Though I acknowledge, with the deepest Sense of Gratitude, the kind and affectionate Reception I have met with from the Inhabitants of this Parish, and which I trust will never be forgotten; yet, I am ready at a Libel to find what Expression in my Letter can justify the Intercourse, "That I appear quite contented with my Situation." I presume my Declaration, "That the Income of the Parish is far from being an adequate Support for so numerous a Family as mine," will not be produced as a Proof of my being "so quite contented." However, I assure them, that I am as well satisfied, as a most kind, benevolent, friendly, indulgent People, and (if I am not mistaken) the smallest Parish in the Province can make me.

Whether I may, or may not continue here to the End of my Days, to my great Comfort, and for the Happiness of my numerous and distressed Family, depends not on the Interest or Influence of the Eastern Shore Clergy, considered either in a separate or collective Capacity, but on One, whose Benevolence I have experienced; to whom I am under the strongest Obligations of Duty and Gratitude, and to whose Pleasure I readily and most cheerfully submit.

It might be deemed Want of Candour to doubt the Sincerity of the Clergy's Wishes, "that I may continue in this Parish to the End of my Days," after they had so unanimously and publicly declared it; otherwise I must confess, I should have been incited to think their real Wishes were, "That I had no Parish at all."

How far the Inhabitants of Kent-Island may think themselves obliged to the Clergy, for their hearty and sincere Wishes, I shall leave to them to determine; but I think it must appear to all, who read their Charge and Censure on the Letter Writer, as they call him, very extraordinary, to see a Body of Men, invested with the most respectful Characters of Ministers of the Gospel, "heartily and sincerely wishing" the Continuance of a Man as Minister of a Parish, after they had represented him in a most odious Light, and who they, as well as every other Person, who entertained the same Sentiments, as they avow they did, must think most unworthy of it. Is the Continuance of such a Man a probable Means of promoting the Interests of Virtue and Religion among a People? Ought not these important Points to be the principal Objects of a Clergyman's Duty? And ought not his Wishes, in fervent Prayers, and unremitting Endeavours to center here? This glaring Inconsistency of Conduct, shews clearly that collective Bodies of Men, though even of the Sacerdotal Order, are often governed by Passion, Caprice, and Resentment, as well as Individuals, and is a striking Proof of the Truth of Eliza's Observation, "That great Men are not always wise; neither do the aged understand Judgment."

I am, Your very humble Servant, MATTHIAS HARRIS.

Kent-Island, June 4, 1771.

Reverend Sir, I HAVE considered with all the Attention I could, the Matter you were so kind to communicate to me, concerning the proposed Alteration in the Payment of the Clergy of this Province; and of their intended Address and Opposition, to the Governor and Assembly, relative to that Matter: And after the most

Inspection is damaged, and it is imagined there were not less than 1600 Hogheads at it. At Byrt's, near the Ground Pier is damaged, supposed 600 Hogheads. Three fine large Granaries, lately built, belonging to Mr. Campbell, Mr. Buchanan, and Mr. McDowell, are carried away, with sundry valuable Goods in them; Two are totally lost, and Mr. Campbell's lodged in a Part of the Town. Many Goods are damaged that were deposited in the publick and other Warehouses. The Merchants at Rocky-Ridge, had likewise their Warehouses near the River carried away, and 300 and odd Hogheads of Tobacco damaged. The Merchants at Warwick have suffered considerably in their Property. Indeed we are constantly hearing of dismal Accounts concerning the several People's low Grounds are much washed away, and others landed. It is judged that the Water was at least 10 Feet perpendicular higher than the Water was Fresh in 1720 or 24, or any other ever known by the oldest Man about us, and 35 or 40 Feet higher than the common Tide. The Damage sustained here, and at Rocky-Ridge, including Tobacco, is computed to be near Forty Thousand Pounds. In short, the Loss of Tobacco here, Weitham, Rocky-Ridge, and at other Landings higher up the River, is estimated at 3000 Hogheads, or more.

Houses, Warehouses, Wine, Tobacco, Rats, of Trees and Timber, are constantly seen floating down the River. The Stones are covered with dead Carcases. Captain Conkie lost Three Anchors. Captain Clarke's Yawl was overboard, and Five Men were drowned. Several of the Ships at Shilly Hundred and City Point are gone ashore, and it is feared, cannot be got off.

By Letters from Orange County, in North-Carolina, we learn that Governor Tison and the Regulars met on the 16th of this Month. The Regulars were assembled to the Number of Twelve or Fifteen Hundred Men; and their Two Chiefs, Husbands and Hunter, had a Conference with the Governor, who allowed them Two Hours to lay down their Arms and repair to their respective Homes, otherwise he should treat them as Rebels. The Time being very near expired, and nothing done on the Part of the Regulars, and the Governor finding, by their Motions, that they were determined to give him Battle, in which Case he should have to cope with almost Three to One, his Party not consisting of more than Five Hundred Men, a few Minutes before the Expiraion of the Time his Excellency gave Direction, to his little Army to open to the right and left and uncover the Artillery, which they did in the utmost good Order, and immediately poured in upon the Regulars a most dreadful Barrage from their Cannon and Mulketry, which did great Execution, there not being above Fifty Yards Distance between the Two Parties; and all this, it is said, to the Amount of a Hundred and sixty Men. Although the Regulars were thrown into the greatest Confusion, they returned the Governor's Fire, killing Seven of his Men, and wounding about Forty. Near a Hundred of the Regulars are taken Prisoners.

We have not been able to learn what has happened since the Battle; but it is said the Two Chiefs of the Regulars had sent a Challenge to the Governor to fight him and his Party that Day Se'night.

ANNAPOLIS, JUNE 13.

On Friday last Mr. Ephraim Gover, of Prince-George's County, his Wife and a Child about Three Years of Age, being on the Road leading from Pig-Point to Herring-Bay, were unfortunately overtaken by a sudden Gull, and took Shelter under a large Poplar, the Child and Two Horses were killed on the Spot by a Flash of Lightning, and Mr. Gover received so severe a Shock, that we are told his Recovery is doubtful. Mrs. Gover was not much hurt.

Extract of a Letter from London, dated 6th April, 1771.

There never was a Measure more odious, and generally alarming, than the Proceeding of the House of Commons against the Printers, the Lord Mayor, and Alderman Oliver. The Violation of the most fundamental Principles of a free Constitution, and of the peculiar Privileges of the City of London, has given great Alarm to all thinking, independent Men, and raised a Fury in our great Metropolis, which is with Difficulty restrained from committing the most tragical Acts. But a little while ago, Sir Fletcher declared he should regard the Resolves of the House of Commons, no more than the Resolves of a Parcel of drunken Porters; now he is in the Chair, those Resolves are omnipotent; but Sir Fletcher's Law (as he is) is set G. Spel, and in general, without Doors, most Men are inclined to frame their political Creeds in direct Contradiction to his Opinions, which are very apt to take their Colour from his immediate Object. The Order of the House, that the Lord Mayor should be heard by his Council, but that they should not defend his Conduct (for such was the Effect of the Restriction, that his Counsel should not speak on the Point of Privilege) has raised the utmost Indignation—this was Tyranny with a Vengeance. Lord North had declared, on a former Occasion, that if he had the Power of working Miracles, without that of multiplying the Leavens and the Fifes, Opposition would still be clamorous in that House. Men that could passively hear such an Insult, must be abandoned indeed. If his Lordship's Remark was true, it shewed that, so far as there is a Concurrence with him, it is more owing to the Leavens and Fifes, that have been multiplied, and he has the Power of distributing, than to the Wisdom of his Measures, the Probability of his Conduct, or the Magick of his Eloquence. W. d. (one of the Men of blustering Patriotism) has plunged himself over Head and Ears in all the Filth and Pollutions of his new Connexions. His Name is pursued with Reproaches and Execrations; Populus me sibi, at mihi plaudo, &c. would suit him as a Motto. The King's Proclamation was issued on the Address of the House of Commons, and it is remark-