

If a Coalition of Parties only takes Place, it is much to be feared the Grievances and Oppressions which the People have so long laboured under, will not be effectually redressed.

It is thought that our Ministry have at length taken the Hint from France and Spain, and intend to put in Execution now, what ought to have been done long ago, viz. The sending Troops and warlike Stores to the several Places of Defence on the American Continent.

A Number of Troops are ordered to be draughted from different Regiments, in order to embark immediately for North-America.

Lord Barrington, it is reported, will speedily resign his Post as Secretary at War on a Pension of 2000l. per Ann. on the Irish Establishment, and to be succeeded by Lord Weymouth.

August 10. The Conquest of Corsica is said to have cost the French 30,000 Men, and 19,000,000 of Livres. And it costs them annually 4,000,000 more to keep it.

August 12. It is said that at a late Council it was advised to send a considerable Squadron to the Tagus, to demand immediate Restitution for the Losses sustained by the British Subjects from the Proceedings of the Court of Lisbon.

It is said Mr. Littleton's Letters of recal from Lisbon are made out and will be sent to him by the next Packet.

August 13. A Ship from America was on Sunday run foul or by a Collier in the River, by which Accident she lost her Rudder, and it being high Water, she was drove ashore, and it is feared will be lost. She is richly laden.

August 15. A Change in the Ministry is the great Object of the present Buzle among the Great. Expressions were last Friday sent to Lord Camden and Lord Mansfield. And it is now said that Lord Mansfield is to have the Seals, that Mr. Thurlow is to be chief Justice, and Mr. Wedderburne to be Attorney-General.

August 16. Yesterday Governor Penn took leave of his Majesty at St. James's, previous to his setting out for Pennsylvania.

If the Crown Revenues in America were employed in building Ships of War instead of being wasted in Pensions, both England and her Colonies might reap the Advantage of such Application.

Orders are given for the 3d, 15th, 20th and 40th Regiments to hold themselves in readiness to march for Portsmouth, where they are to embark for the West-Indies.

His Majesty has been pleased to grant unto Sir George Brydges Rodney, Bart. the Office or Place of Rear Admiral of Great-Britain, and of the Admiralty thereof, and of Rear Admiral of the Navies and Seas of Great Britain.

August 17. A Correspondent informs us, that a new Ministry will be settled before the Meeting of Parliament, and among other Removes in the new Arrangement, he says, that Lord Chatham is to be Lord Privy Seal, Lord Camden President of the Council, and the Duke of Grafton will be again at the Head of the Treasury.

August 20. If the Letters from Vienna are to be depended upon, a Congress is soon to be held at Temeswar, in order to bring about an Accommodation between the Russians and the Turks.

It is asserted that circular Letters will be speedily sent to the several Members of the Privy Council, requiring their Attendance in Town on Business of great Importance. And as it is positively said, that conciliatory Measures have been the principal Object of Consideration at the late Cabinet Councils, it is thought they will be carried into Effect previous to the next Meeting of Parliament.

It is said his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, when at Lisbon, will enquire into the Causes of the late Misunderstanding between the British Subjects settled in Portugal and the Ministry there, and, if possible, amicably terminate the Matter between them.

It is said Orders are given for Six Men of War of the Line to be stationed in the Downs immediately.

St. JOHN'S (in Antigua) August 31.

On Saturday last, about 9 o'Clock in the Morning, the Five Pirates were brought from the Jail, and carried in Two Carts to the Place of Execution, amidst a prodigious Number of Spectators; they behaved very penitently, particularly at the Place of Execution, where they were attended by the Rev. Mr. Bowen; after Prayers, at which they seemed to join with great Fervey, on being asked if they had any Thing to say, they uniformly answered in the Negative; only Cooper addressed the Populace, particularly the Seafaring Part of it, to take warning by their Fate, and learn Submission and due Subordination to their Officers. At 35 Minutes after 10 the Carts were pulled away, whilst they continued calling on God to have Mercy on their Souls. Cooper and Washington were afterwards gibbeted near St. James Fort, pursuant to their Sentence.

B O S T O N, September 30.

Monday last Capt. Driver arrived here in a Brig from St. Martins, who informs us, that on the 12th of September he spoke a Brig, Capt. Joseph Packard, from New-London, Lat. 30, 40, Long. 64, who informed him that on the 7th he met with a hard Gale of Wind or Hurricane, which carried away his Masts, and 47 Horses, and broke in all his Waist on the Star-board Side; he also informed him that he afterwards met a Spanish Man of War that had been dismasted in the same Gale; Capt. Packard went on board the Spanish Man of War and found most of the Crew Sick with the Small-Pox, the Spaniard spared him some Sails. He also said that he met with an English Ship from St. Croix bound Home which was dismasted at the same Time.

N E W - Y O R K, October 7.

Wednesday Morning last sailed from hence with the Mail for Falmouth, the Mercury Packet, Capt. Dillon,

in which Vessel went Passengers, Capt. Thomas Eden, (Brother to Governor Eden, of Maryland) and Richard Bennet Lloyd, Esq;

The Honourable Mrs. Eden, and Miss Darby, arrived here from Annapolis, the Week before last, with Captain Eden.

Captain Nicholas Bogart, in 33 Days from Jamaica, informs us, that on Tuesday the 3d Ult. 30 Minutes after 7 o'Clock, P. M. Port Morant Harbour bearing N. N. W. Distance Two Miles, he felt a severe Shock of an Earthquake, attended with a prodigious rumbling Noise, that had such Effect on his Vessel as to awake all the Seamen that were asleep on board, who really imagined the Brig was drove ashore.

A N N A P O L I S, October 17.

On Monday last, the Honourable the Lower House of Assembly were pleased to take under Consideration, a Petition from sundry the Inhabitants of Charles County, complaining of an undue Election of Capt. Francis Ware and Mr. Josias Hawkins, jun. The Charge against them was for treating, which being fully proved by the Evidences, the House were pleased, by their Speaker, to signify to those Two Gentlemen that their Attendance was no longer required. A Writ of Election has since been issued to make Choice of Two Members for said County, to supply the present Vacancy.

On Tuesday Night last the Storehouse of Mr. Jonathan Plewman of Baltimore-Town, Merchant, was blown up.—It happened, as we are informed, by a Negro Fellow's going in to make up the Store-keeper's Bed in an upper Room, and having set down a Candle on or near Two Barrels of Gunpowder, they took Fire; the Negro was blown to Pieces, the Storekeepers, who were below, were carried out of the House, but in what Manner they cannot give any Information.—We are also informed by Captain Davis, from Liverpool, that a Snow belonging to this Province was on Shore on the Coast of Ireland.

T O T H E P R I N T E R.

S I R, October the 7th, 1771.

I AM a plain old Man, and could be well content to entertain the Log-end of my Life with quiet Hours; which, however anxiously wished for, will hardly be the Fate of him, who, in Times like these, ventures to intermeddle in publick Concerns. My Countrymen will pardon me, if, alarmed at the Prospect of Danger to One of the dearest Privileges, which, as the free Subject of a free Country, I enjoy, the Security of my Property, I hobble into the Field of Controversy. Nor, let me be reflected on only because I write on a Subject in which I confess I am much interested. I may be a weak, but I will not be a disingenuous Writer, nor deliver a Sentiment, I do not myself firmly believe to be right: I may and I will speak freely what I think, but I will neither be uncandid, nor indecent.

We are told out of Doors, that One Appendage to the projected Inspection-Law, is a Reduction of the Salaries of the Clergy. Whether the perpetual Act of 1701 be or be not, like the Laws of the Medes and Persians, unalterable, I do not mean here to debate: Alterations have been made in it, but never, I believe, till now, attempted with the direct and avowed Purpose of lessening the Provision there made for the Maintenance of Ministers of the Church of England. I have seen an Answer of the Upper House to a Petition of the Clergy, on an Occasion similar to the present, in which (so far from having any Aim to diminish the Revenues of the Church) they declare that "the Law was designed to advance the Interest of the Clergy, in particular." I have also seen an Answer of the Lower House of Assembly to a Governor's Speech, in which are these remarkable Words; "We will always bear a just regard to that reverend Body, nor attempt to obtrude any Terms on them, which it may not justly think their Inclinations to accept of—nor do we see any Reason to join the Income of the Church and State on the present Occasion, the former being grounded on LAW, the latter NOT."

Truth cannot vary: If these Opinions and Assertions were true in 1739, they must be so still, though very different Doctrines are now in vogue. What the then Patriots considered as grounded on Law, and therefore sacred and inviolable, their Successors consider as grounded only on their Wills, and merely a Creature of their own. It might be invidious in me to draw any Comparison—my Readers will judge for themselves.

It was not my Design to argue on the Illegality or Injustice of the Procedure: Of these, I should suppose, the Assembly may easily furnish themselves with the Proofs, if they be so minded, by consulting their own Records; And, for the Clergy, this is a Point they must labour elsewhere, should they be driven to the Necessity.

The Injustice of robbing us of a Third or an Half of our absolute Freeholds is, indeed, but an inferior and subordinate Consideration: There are not wanting Men, who gravely talk of the Fitness of reducing our Order to the primitive Standard of the apostolical Age; and a World of fine Things are said on the Subject. I cannot persuade myself to give any other Reply to these curious Arguments, than by observing, after no mean Authority, that whenever these Reformers shall be pleased to set us the Example, and reduce themselves to the Standard of those to whom the Apostles preached, we will not then hesitate, in that Particular at least, to become Apostles.—I shall not need to tell these Gentlemen, that, to do this, they must sell all they have, and give to the Poor, and follow us.

The People, we are told, have been taught to expect to pay off the Clergy's Dues at Four Shillings per Taxable; and it were dangerous to disappoint them. Hence I learn, that whenever a Point is to be carried, it is

but to instruct the People to expect it—no Matter what Address and Management are used to raise the Expectation—no Matter whether it be wise or just—the People must not be disappointed: For a Man, on the Eve of an Election, to give out, that he will follow the Instructions of his Constituents, though against his private Opinions, may, perhaps, with other Finesse, be overlooked or pardoned. But for any Man, or any Body of Men, first to raise a popular Clamour, and then, on an important Occasion, profess to be guided thereby, whatever Proof it may be of political Capacity, is none, in my Judgment, of a conscientious Integrity.—Penny Plate gave up the Saviour of the World to be crucified—to please the People.

For my own Part, I cannot believe that the People are so tenacious of this Measure as they are said to be. An Inspection-Law, I doubt not, they ardently wish for, and with good Reason. For, I am much mistaken, if the Loss that the Province has already sustained from the Want of one, does not far overbalance all that could be saved, in many Years, by the projected Regulations. Pursuing a Shadow, we are in Danger of losing the Substance. Restore to us then, O ye Senators, at all Adventures, this most useful Law for the Regulation of our Staple: It is essential and indispensable. For other Matters, be they ever so expedient, they are not of absolute Necessity.

The good of the People is ever the offensive Presence of Patriotism. A good Man is unwilling to doubt the Sincerity of so fair a Plea; but, in the present Instance, it is, at least, liable to Suspicion. In my Parish there are between 12 and 1300 Taxables, of whom Two-thirds, I believe, are richer than I am; Which Two-thirds, as well as the remaining Third, are all to be regulated at my Expence alone.

One would think that, in a Project for the good of the People, the poorer any Man was, the greater share he should have in the Benefit of the Project. But here, it is just the Reverse: A poor Man, who pays but for One Taxable, may save a Shilling or two in a Year by the Regulation; whilst the Projectors of it complain themselves with Ten or Twenty Times that Sum.

Having no Interests distinct from the true Interests of my Country, I could be contented cheerfully to bear (as I now do) any Burthen in common with my Fellow-subjects, for the Support of Government, or the general good of the Province: But I cannot but think it hard to be singled out, to be preferred to how much of what his hitherto been looked upon as my undoubted legal Property, I shall give away, and to whom. And it is a particularly severe Tax on my Charity to oblige me, for every Sixpence I bestow upon the Poor, to bestow Forty Times as much on the Rich.

In all Compositions in lieu of Tithes (and the Assessment of 40lb. of Tobacco per Taxable is certainly in the Nature of Tithes, and intended to be paid here, as in all other Countries—in Kind) that I have ever known or read of, the Modus, as it is called, has always been settled at a Rate equivalent to the Value of the Tithe. And this, undoubtedly, common Prudence and Justice direct. The Clergy of Maryland, however, will be careful how they surrender their Claim to Tithe in Kind for any specified Sum of Money whatever; it being, perhaps, capable of Demonstration, that no casual Increase of Taxables bears any Proportion to the certain Decrease of the Value of Money. Tobacco is, probably, a more fluctuating, and, doubtless, a far less certain Commodity than any that has ever been tithed, not being to be ranked among the Necessaries, hardly indeed among the Luxuries, of Life; yet is it, I am persuaded, much more likely to keep Pace with other Articles of necessary Use than any fixed Sum of a Provincial Paper Currency. For, as is observed by an ingenious Writer, "no De-termination of Money is of any certain, perpetual, intrinsic Value." Money Payments might, for aught I know, be as acceptable, if not more so, to many of the present Clergy, as Tobacco; but they might ruin their Successors. It has been said, in the publick Papers, that Four Shillings per Taxable would, if equally divided, afford an Income of £.400 per Annum to every beneficed Clergyman in the Province. I greatly suspect this Calculation. But, admitting it were true, and that £.400 per Annum were now deemed an ample Provision, how shall we be assured that, a Century hence, such a Salary will be adequate to the Maintenance of a reputable Clergy; it being well known, that every Necessary, or Convenience of Life has risen hardly less than tenfold, within the last Hundred Years? So that I see no Paradox in asserting, that a Clergyman possessed of a Benefice that, a Hundred Years ago, brought him in £.100 per Annum, was better provided for, and, to all Intents and Purposes, a richer Man, than his Successor, who may happen to receive Five or six Times that Sum.

It is mean and illiberal to talk of allotting us barely wherewithal to support us. Clergymen being, often by Birth, and always by Education and Profession, Gentlemen, cannot be supposed to be, generally, Adepts in a rigid Economy; that depending on an Attention to an Infinity of Minutes, for which their Education and Manner of Life may seem to have rather unfitted them. Wealth and Poverty are comparative Terms: A Labourer that earns his Halt a Crown a Day, may, and often does, feel fewer of the Evils of narrow Circumstances, than his Neighbour who, perchance, possesses Ten Times that Sum. Previous Habits and the Station of Life in which a Man is fixed, determine his Rank in the Scale of Plenty or Poverty.—In vulgar Reckoning, a mean Condition bespeaks a mean Man. And, though it be undoubtedly right that personal Respect should follow personal Merit alone, yet, whilst human Passions and human Policy have so much to say in these Affairs, we well know how the Case will be. The Question is not how a Clergyman, when poor, ought to be regarded, but how he will be regarded: And I have lived to see Instances enough in Maryland, to authorize my saying, that against the Contempt of Poverty no Age has ever found a Remedy, no Ability a Defence, nor any Virtue

It is not on... appears to be... the Man content... And whe... Disgrace, am... separate the E... Circumstances... cannot long... importance to the... Ministers i... Independence...

The utmost that the... to do, is to live... educate our Child... own Industry an... to live above Con... are not the Men who... Foundations for be... our Profession; th... by other Professio... who are they now p... they not the Sons of... Government, o... counts, and other Cr... learned either the F... I ardently commend... But where, I... Clergyman, by the G... not be denied, that m... such Abilities, th... had to other Callin... as good a Fig... as others may... under my Notice... for a Warning to F... Children to the Gov... nature to settle in t... the Metropolis of th... Prudent Select and... who had deserved fo... aimed any where else... elected to his Nemo... Dead.

The enormous Sa... filling Topic of Cou... Fervour receive int... either blamed or... every other Depart... Complaints of Abusi... find that no Infirm... thrown out against... known to be out of... ill-founded, or curr... reach the meanest I...

I did intend to ha... ther, and to have s... all to one common... that must inevitably... Emulation, the leg... generous Actions a... reminded my Countr... ry Poets, and but I... men can breed up t... its present Estate, i... stems of Family, e... educate their Sons...

And, finally, I... whom it imports to... in the Manner that... all Possibility of di... as may hereafter a... sent Footing, wher... the obvious Remed... providing for a m... gious Instruction: I... returned to but I... sons. I heard a... lation, say, that o... Taxable, would n... And, this being... these large Parliam... imagined that R... whilst our Parishes... until every Perform... Power to attend... least, once every... Taxes must be li... bably occasion M... easily suppressed... the Incomes of fo... sciently notorious... Church is exceed... competent Numbr... shall become as p... which, let us be... finding that I giv... I am, S I R... the Publick... AN E...

To be sold at pub... change, on T... next, at the F... Town, by Vi... that Purpose,

A Tract on... County, Hundred and F... (tf)

J U S... A Quantity... the Subj... or on short Cr... Bohea Tea, at... Pound Lots, fo... (w2)