

George's County, March 12, 1773.
SHAM RACES.
To be run on the First Day of June next,
Twenty Pounds Currency, free for
Mares, or Gelding, carrying
Four Years old, 7 Stone;
Five Years old, 8 Stone 7
pounds; Six Years old, 8 Stone 7
pounds; Seven Years old, 9 Stone. Heats Four Miles

The Second, a give and take
Pounds, free for any Horse,
(the Winner the preceding Day
Fourteen Hands high to carry 8
Stone) fall agreeable to the Rules of
Three Miles each.

On the Third, a Purse of Ten
Pounds for Four Years old Colts
to carry 8 Stone, and Fillies 109
pounds each, (the winning
First and Second Days excepted).
The Purse for the First Day
to be divided into Two clear Heats any of
which shall be entitled to the Purse for
the Second Day. The Purse for the First Days
on Monday the 17th, with Mr.
Mr. John Rice, before Twelve
and pay Fifty Shillings Entrance,
Twenty Shillings to be allowed that
Day. For the Second Day Sub-
scribers, Non-Subscribers,
and for the Third, Subscribers as
the Dollar, and Non-Subscribers
Entrance, or double at the Post
Horses &c. for the Second Day to
be entered by the above Persons, be-
fore Eleven and Twelve in the Fore-
noon the Colts Purse on Tuesday also,
the Ages of the several Horses,
to be produced when enter-
ing the First Day to pay Twenty
Pounds Ten; and the Third Five
Pounds of Weights and Scales, to start
at One o'clock each Day. Proprietors
to determine all Disputes that may

arise between reputed running Horses to start
at One o'clock.

April 6, 1773.
I give this publick Notice to all
particularly his old Acquaintance,
in the House where Mr. John Brewer
the Head of the Dock in the City of
the keeps wet and dry Goods for Sale,
I have provided myself with every Necessary for
Gentlemen in private Lodgings; those
please to favour him with their Com-
munion to the best Treatment, as it shall be
my endeavour to please, and their Horses
of. He would at all Times be glad
of Business, that lies in his Power, for
they shall think proper to communicate
in the best Manner he is able.
THOMAS HINCKS.

BE SOLD,
The Houses and Lots belonging to
John Morten Jordan, Esq; deceased,
Bank of Severn River in the City of
Person inclinable to purchase the
Lots, may know the Terms by ap-
pointed obedient humble Servant,
REUBEN MERIWETHER, Adm.

March 16, 1773.
I give this publick Notice to all
my good Customers, and to other
that he now lives in the House where
the Cuttings lately dwelt, near the Head
in the City of Annapolis, that he hath
provided himself with every Necessary for the Re-
tlemen in the Tavern Way. Those
who are pleased to favour him with their
may depend on the best Treatment, as
my constant Endeavour to please. I
am very glad to do any Kind of Bu-
siness, as they think proper to
to me, in the best Manner I can.
My most obliged humble Servant,
HENRY GASSAWAY.

I have a very careful Overseer at my Farm
of Town, that understands the Man-
agement of Horses, if Gentlemen choose to send
to pasture they shall be taken Care of
their Orders; there is a fine large
fenced in, a good Stable, and other
that Gentlemen may have them pro-
vided in the best Manner; all Care shall be
taken they do not get away. If they should I
will be very glad to return them
them forth coming.
H. G.

March 22, 1773.
I give this publick Notice to all
the Subscribers at publick Vendue, to the
Bidder, on Thursday July 1st next,
at and House in George-Town, wherein
Mr. Cornish formerly lived, for Cash or

ADAM STEUART,
WILLIAM DEAKINS, junr.

AND SON.

(XXVIIIth YEAR.)

T H E

(N^o. 1444.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, M A Y 13, 1773.

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

*Bonus nocet, quisquis pepererit malis; et malum quod quis
impedire potuit, nec impedit, jecisse videtur; veterum
ferendo injuriam invitas novam.*

It has ever been the policy of
those restless, and ambitious
spirits, who want genius, wis-
dom, and learning, to rise in
the state, to attempt its sub-
version by every low art of
dissimulation, craft, and in-
trigue. To gain the voice of
the people, to mislead their
judgment, and to render them
the tools wherewith to execute their vile and infamous
purposes, they put on the mask of patriotism; declare
vehemently against publick measures; stigmatize their
rulers by the most unjust, and villainous accusations;
and set themselves up as the only men capable of sav-
ing, or reforming the state. The most minute errors
in administration are continued into premeditated de-
signs against the liberties of the people; they prognos-
ticate dangers which they do not believe; and seem to
dread events, they are conscious, can never happen.
Having thus discovered the most dangerous symptoms
of a weak, and sickly constitution, they prescribe re-
medies, which, like those of true empiricks, are of so
violent a nature, that few have strength to survive
their operation. By arts like these, many of the an-
cient republicks were totally destroyed and annihilated,
as likewise the best and wisest men, that ever adorned
Rome and Athens, proscribed, and driven into ban-
ishment, to the eternal infamy and disgrace of their
fellow-citizens.

The sober page of history is not in any sense more
beneficial, than in teaching us, by the many examples
of this kind laid before us, how to guard against the
pestilential designs of such demagogues, as are perpetu-
ally attempting to sow the seeds of dissension and anar-
chy amongst us, in order that by comparing past with
present events, we may learn to avoid those rocks,
which others have so unfortunately split on.

What has principally occasioned these reflections, is
the perusal of some dialogues and other pieces lately
published in our Gazette, which seem calculated for no
other purpose, than to throw the province into intel-
lible commotions; hoping thereby to divert the atten-
tion of the inhabitants from too close an enquiry into
the true, and real causes, of our present unhappy cir-
cumstances. That these circumstances are in the smal-
lest degree the effects of the proclamation, the most
barefaced effrontery will scarcely assert. And though
there is little occasion to do so to fill a confutation of
the First Citizen's doctrines, as has been given by An-
tilion, and Plain Truth; yet I cannot help observing,
that as the measure of the proclamation seemed calcu-
lated, and had moreover a tendency, to preserve peace
and harmony amongst us, till such time as these bless-
ings could be established betwixt the different
branches of the legislature, I am so far from viewing it
through the magnifying medium of this gentleman,
that I look upon it, in its present mutilated form, as
harmless as a tame worn out lion, with every tooth
drawn, and his toes cut off. Every offensive part of
the old form is rescinded, nothing in it coercive but
on the officers, and nothing retained but what seemed
absolutely necessary for the tranquillity of the pro-
vince; so that its likeness to the proclamation for
money, even allowing the implication contended for,
is as a modest hint of the claim of an honest labourer,
to the threatening demands of a highwayman.

When truth, candour, and moderation distinguish
the pen of a writer in defence of the injured rights of
a people, we peruse his works not only with attention,
but even with some degree of pleasure; and though
conviction may not always flow from the weight and
pertinency of his arguments, yet credit may be reason-
ably given him for the sincerity and goodness of his
intentions. On the contrary, when from a spirit of
envy, rancour, and malevolence, writers, in order to
carry into execution their own wicked designs, put on
the mask of publick virtue, arraign the measures of
government, and endeavour by falsehoods, and misre-
presentation, to produce convulsions in the state;
when, by the most strained torture of construction,
they attempt to extract criminality from the most in-
nocent designs, supposing their readers to be all either
fools, or knaves, incapable of understanding their own
language, or wicked enough to become the abettors of
sedition, words are too feeble to express the contempt
and detestation they ought to be held in. The merit
of obliging the officers to receive money for tobacco
fees at 12 s. 6 d. per cent. by which many of their in-
comes are reduced nearly one half, is a crime too great
to be easily forgiven administration; nor must pre-
rogative, because it has formerly been made use of to
the prejudice of the people, be exerted, in this illumi-
nated age, even for their benefit. That great and able
advocate for liberty, and the rights of mankind, the
incomparable Mr. Locke, delivering himself on this
subject, observes, that "if there comes to be a question
between the executive power and the people about a
thing claimed as prerogative, the tendency of the

"exercise of such prerogative for the good, or hurt of
"the people, will easily decide the question;" so that
till the First Citizen can prove in opposition to truth,
and to the observation of every man in the province,
that the proclamation, in the form it was issued, had
a tendency to injure the publick good, or that it has
been injured by its effects, his arguments will have
little weight with those, who require somewhat more
to convince them than mere asseveration, before they
proceed to the censure of a man who is both a friend,
and an ornament to his country, though perhaps nei-
ther his wig, or complexion, may be exactly conform-
able to the taste of a few particular gentlemen.

If the proclamation hath been any way injurious, it
has been only so to the officers and lawyers, whose in-
terests might perhaps have been better promoted by
the production of different effects, than those of peace,
and concord. Of this indeed the First Citizen seems
fully convinced, as well from his eager desire of in-
volving the people and officers in perpetual law-suits,
as from the uneasiness he betrays at its not having been
attended with those consequences.

Quid non mortalia pectora cogis

Auri sacra fames?

On this occasion, I hope, I shall not be thought too
severe in remarking, that although the profession of
the law is generally allowed to be liberal, yet if self-in-
terest, as has been long contended, is the most pre-
dominant principle in the human mind, it seems almost
a necessary consequence, from the very spirit of the
profession, that lawyers should be either possessed of
more extraordinary degrees of virtue than other men,
or that they must in a much lesser degree be well will-
ers to the peace and happiness of society. For if con-
science is not entirely kicked out of doors by these gen-
tlemen, would it not much better become them to en-
deavour to heal our present divisions by mild, and con-
ciliating measures, in agreeing to some effectual mode
of restraining the extortions of their own order, together
with those of usurers, and officers; rather than by
pouring a torrent of virulent abuse upon men, who are
at least as honest as themselves, to induce a suspicion
of their designs to screen their criminal conduct from the
penetrating eye of the publick. Can there possibly be
exhibited in nature a more ridiculous farce, than that
of lawyers publicly haranguing against extortion, and
endeavouring by mere force of vehement declamation
to convince their hearers, they are enemies to the prac-
tice of it. If they really mean what they say, let them
begin with a reformation of their own order, the surest
criterion of their sincerity, as well as the most effectual
means of increasing the confidence of the publick.
For alas! how little will it avail to guard the flock a-
gainst a few hungry curs, if a whole herd of devouring
wolves have free entrance into the fold.

It was a witty observation of a late worthy member
of the house of assembly, that prerogative was some-
what like Aaron's rod, which swallowed all the rods
of the magicians; and that he feared the same conse-
quences might happen to the privileges of the people
of this province. But had that gentleman lived in
these days, he would have acknowledged, that the rods
of our present state magicians, the lawyers, are become
full as dangerous as that of Aaron's, with this differ-
ence only, that as property seems a much more agree-
able, and substantial repair to the nature and keenness
of their appetites, than privilege; so, on condition of
their being suffered to enjoy without the least inter-
ruption the former, they will not only use their endea-
vours to secure us the latter, but likewise by various
other different modes, to bar out effectually every de-
mon of extortion, of whatsoever nature, or degree in
government, provided *the door be left open
for themselves.* This generous offer of theirs puts me
in mind of some facetious members in the house of
commons, who, when a bill was brought in to lay a
further duty upon spirituous liquors, proposed a clause
whereby to exclude all spirits made use of in punch;
yet notwithstanding the many ingenious arguments
urged on the occasion to have it inserted, the bill was
at length passed by a majority of upwards of two to
one, and punch included. Whether our lawyers will
have better success than the punch drinkers, remains
yet to be determined; though as it is no misfortune to
a country to have a famine of tricks, collusion and de-
ceit, I flatter myself, such measures will be taken, as
that whilst we are endeavouring to cut off a few warts,
and excrescences in government, we leave not a cancer
to eat out our very vitals;

Ne boves ipsos, mox agros, postremo corpora, Ser-
vitiu, aut pecunia tradant.

Amongst many other proofs of the numberless obli-
gations we lie under to some of these gentlemen, are
in great measure the calamities we begin already to
experience from the loss of our late inspection law, oc-
casioned by want of that temper and moderation so es-
sentially at all times necessary betwixt the different
branches of the legislature, so true is the observation,
that concordia parva res crescunt, discordia maxime
dilatantur. King James the first thought the use of
tobacco so pernicious, that he employed his royal pen
in writing a piece against it, entitled, *a counterblast to
tobacco.* But had a thousand such blasts made their ap-

pearance in these days, they could not have been at-
tended with such pernicious consequences, as what
have been, and will be felt, from the late disorder in
our legislative body. The price of our staple is reduced
in foreign markets; our credit is impaired; our bills
protested; suits at law multiplied; our merchants dis-
couraged; and numbers of our planters reduced to the
greatest distress; and to complete our misfortunes, the
wisest men are at a loss where to look for redress. For
how vain must be any dependence upon our rulers,
whilst the epidemic rage continues of electing such
men members of our house of assembly, "as let out
"their tongues and talents for hire; call good evil,
"and evil good; and who defend guilty, and declaim a-
"gainst innocence, just according as they are paid by their
"employers," whose weapons are of the keenest temper,
and who by union are become so formidable in favour
of their general interest, that, like the Macedonian
phalanx, they seem not only in themselves impenetra-
ble, but both able, and willing, to cut down every
thing that stands in the way of their ambitious designs.
This, though a seeming paradox to those who dip not
deeper than the surface, admits of an easy solution.
Thirteen or fourteen such members in the number of
only fifty eight, sitting in the house of assembly, with
proofs and other valuable papers of a considerable share
of the property of the rest in their possession, and de-
pending solely on their integrity, added to their influ-
ence and abilities as speakers, become scarcely resist-
ible. Few men are blind to a sense of their own inter-
est, and fewer still, in the circumstances I have de-
scribed, when these gentlemen are extremely solicitous
to carry favourite points, have much inclination to
give offence. To place therefore an unlimited confi-
dence in men, whose favourite element is anarchy and
dissension, and whose bread in great measure depends
upon the promotion of them, and to resign to them
the care of our dearest, and most valuable interests, is
certainly an act of the most consummate folly; but a
perseverance in it can only be justly characterized by
the height of madness. Is it, pray, the interest of
lawyers, that the acts of assembly should be few in
number, or voluminous? that they should be plain
and easy of construction, or obscure and oracular?
fixed and determinate, or fluctuating and evasive?
to promote the passage of bills for the speedy obtaining of
justice, or to prevent it? to lessen the number of suits,
or to increase it? and to repress the taking extor-
tionable fees, or to receive them? To what a degree
of faith then must that man have arrived, who can
trust the security of his property in such hands! If
they are men of integrity, must they not be frequently
acting diametrically opposite to their true interest, and
in such case, is it not doing them a real injury to elect
them? If they are not men of integrity, do they not
become consequently more dangerous from their situa-
tion, and is not the commission of so sacred a trust to
them as I have been mentioning, an act of the greatest
rashness and indiscretion? Should we not think it a
most hazardous and precipitate experiment in an indi-
vidual to stake all he had, even upon the severest vir-
tue, under the strongest, and frequent temptations?
and shall we be less careful in our publick concerns,
in which our posterity is so deeply interested? I would
not, however, from anything I have said, be thought
so very uncharitable, as to condemn every person of
the profession. I am sensible there are some gentlemen
whom the publick voice justly distinguishes for their
abilities, integrity and moderation,

"Untainted by the guilty bribe,
"Uncurst amongst the harpy tribe;
"No orphans cry to wound their ear,
"Their honour, and their conscience clear."

Such fall not within my general censure; so that as
these strictures can offend none but those whom the
cap fits, I shall be extremely easy as to any answer
given to them. What I principally contend for, is,
that lawyers in the house of assembly must, if they are
true to the trust reposed in them by their constituents,
frequently act diametrically opposite to their private
interests; and that the electing of men to act under
such circumstances is little less than madness. In this
opinion I have a right to continue, till it can be pro-
ved, that the mere name of the profession metamor-
phoses a man into little less than an angel, by a full
conquest of those selfish passions which in general sway
the conduct of other men. But in order to confirm
the truth of what I have advanced, and to convince
my reader, I speak not without sufficient authority, I
shall give a few specimens of the conduct of the gen-
tlemen of this profession, in a publick character, from
the annals of our mother country.

Carte in his history of England tells us, that the
lawyers in the reign of Edward the third, were the
only set of men, who, without any dependence on the
court, and merely from the spirit of their profession, were
deemed unfit to sit in parliament; and that in the 25th
year of the same king, a clause was inserted in the
writs of summons, requiring that such knights, citi-
zens, and burghesses, should be chosen, as were not
maintainers of quarrels, suits, or pleas; or such as lived by

• Carte, Vol. 2. p. 480.