

glect and disregard, very hardly brooked by the high spirits of a great and powerful nation; but the hopes of redress still encouraging us to persevere, we again supplicate your Majesty to listen to the voice of your aggrieved subjects, in vindication of your own and the nation's honour, against your despotic and corrupt ministers, who have perverted the fountains of public justice, and undermined the foundation of our excellent constitution. Our representatives, who were chosen to be guardians of our rights, have invaded our most sacred privileges. The right of being represented in parliament is the inherent, unalienable privilege, as well as peculiar glory of the free born inhabitants of this country; and a person qualified according to law a magistrate of this city, was duly elected a Knight of the shire for the county of Middlesex, by a great majority of legal votes, yet has been excluded from the House of Commons, by a resolution of that house; and a candidate, who had only a few votes, declared the representative of the electors of the said county, against their consent.—Through the like corrupt influence of the same ministers, the chief magistrate, and one of the aldermen of this city were imprisoned for not obeying the illegal mandates of an arbitrary House of Commons, and violating the solemn oaths they had taken for the preservation of the liberties and franchises of the capital of your Majesty's dominions. We recal to your Majesty's remembrance, with horror, that unparalleled act of tyranny, the erasing a judicial record, in order to stop the course of justice, to introduce a system of power against right, and to tear up by the roots truth and law from the earth.

We therefore, your remonstrants, again supplicate your Majesty to employ the only remedy now left by the constitution, the exercise of that salutary power with which you are entrusted by law, the dissolving of the present parliament, and the removal of those evil counsellors who advised the measures so generally odious to the nation, and your Majesty, as the true guardian of our rights, shall ever reign in the hearts of a grateful people.

#### ANNAPOLIS, May 26.

On Sunday the 9th instant departed this life, after a short illness, in the 52d year of her age, Mrs. Elizabeth Hanson, the amiable consort of Walter Hanson, Esq; of Charles county; a lady truly pious, benevolent, and charitable; who in life had practised, with remarkable attention, the several duties of a devout christian, constant wife, affectionate parent, and tender mistress. Her death is most sincerely lamented, by a disconsolate husband, children, numerous relations, and acquaintances.

We are requested to insert the following account of the election.

Last Friday was held the election for this city, when Mess. William Paca and Matthias Hammond were chosen by a very great majority of the freemen, indeed, without any opposition; much was expected, as Mr. Anthony Stewart had long declared himself a candidate for the city, even before a vacancy by the resignation of Mr. Hall, whose friends in the county invited upon his being a poll there. Mr. Stewart's private character justly recommended him to the esteem of his fellow citizens; but as he was originally proposed to turn out Mr. Hall or Mr. Paca, who stood high in the esteem of the people, and as a strong suspicion was entertained of his political principles and court connexions, Mr. Hammond was put up in opposition to him, and on the morning of the election so great was the majority of the voters for Mr. Hammond, that Mr. Stewart thought it prudent to decline.

The polls being closed and Mess. Paca and Hammond declared duly elected, it was proposed and universally approved of, to go in solemn procession to the gallows, and to bury under it the much detested proclamation. A description of the funeral obsequies may not be disagreeable to the publick.

First were carried two flags with the following labels, on one LIBERTY, on the other NO PROCLAMATION. Between the flags walked the two representatives: a clerk and sexton preceded the coffin; on the left, the grave-digger carrying a spade on his shoulder. The proclamation was cut out of Antilon's first paper, and deposited in the coffin, near which moved slowly on two drummers with muffled drums, and two fifers playing a dead march: after them were drawn six pieces of small cannon, followed by a great concourse of citizens, and gentlemen from the country, who attended this funeral. In this order they proceeded to the gallows, to which the coffin was for a time suspended, then cut down and buried under a discharge of minute-guns. On the coffin was the following inscription.

THE PROCLAMATION  
The Child of FOLLY and OPPRESSION  
born the 26th of November 1770  
departed this life  
14th of May 1773  
and  
Buried on the same Day  
by  
The FREEMAN of Annapolis.

It is wished, that all similar attempts against the rights of a free people may meet with equal abhorrence; and that the court party, convinced by experience of the impotency of their interest, may never hereafter disturb the peace of the city by their vain and feeble exertions to bear down the free and independent citizens.

TO THE FIRST CITIZEN.  
SIR,

YOUR manly and spirited opposition to the arbitrary attempt of government to establish the fees of office, by proclamation, justly entitles you to the exalted character of a distinguished advocate for the rights of your country. The proclamation needed only to be thoroughly understood, to be generally detested,

and you have had the happiness to please—to instruct—to convince your countrymen. It is the publick voice, Sir, that the establishment of fees, by the sole authority of prerogative, is an act of usurpation—an act of tyranny, which, in a land of freedom, cannot—must not—be endured.

The free and independent citizens of Annapolis, the metropolis of Maryland, who have lately honoured us with the publick character of representatives, impressed with a just sense of the signal service, which you have done your country, instructed us, on the day of our election, to return you their hearty thanks. Publick gratitude, Sir, for publick services, is the patriot's due; and we are proud to observe the generous feelings of our fellow-citizens towards an advocate for liberty.

With pleasure, we comply with the instructions of our constituents; and in their name we publickly thank you for the spirited exertion of your abilities.

We are, Sir, most respectfully,

Your very humble servants,

WILLIAM PACA,

MATTHIAS HAMMOND.

Annapolis, May 17th 1773.

#### T O B R U T U S .

I AM surprised you should not have taken notice, in your judicious and truly patriotic performance, of a very late occurrence in this province in support of your position, that there is great hazard in trusting lawyers with the power of making laws. Every man who has been unfortunately involved in a law-suit has had experience of their incapacity in practice. That they have trampled upon the clearest law to advance their profit is a publick accusation, and their silence and the experience of suitors shew their prudence in not denying a charge which can be easily proved against them; but the occurrence I mean is this, and it affords the clearest proof of their selfish principles.

The cocker of the provincial court was burthened with suits for assault and battery, and slanderous words, for the most part uttered in passion; the parties were put to all the expence and inconvenience of paying heavy fees to lawyers and officers, and the inconvenience of being absent from home to attend their suits. This mischief called for the interposition of the assembly, and a bill to provide against it, under the title of "An act to prevent trivial suits in the provincial court," was framed in October session 1771, in order that these trifling matters might either be forgotten, or determined at little expence in the county courts; but the lawyers, to prevent the passage of a law which would affect their fees, though of great ease to the people, proposed that it should be amended in such a manner as would make the law more inconvenient than it was before. The lower house saw their base design, and defeated it; let those who deserve it feel the sting. The county court lawyers voted for the bill, because, if carried into a law, it would increase their fees; but the provincial court lawyers voted against it, on a similar motive, because it would lessen their business. I speak in general; though Justice and Peace voted against the bill, i. e. the candid and generous Hall voted for it, and thus gave a noble proof of his disinterestedness, and that he preferred the ease of the people to his personal profit. This behaviour of the worthy Hall I hope will be attended to by the free electors of Anne-Arundel county.

CASSIUS.

See the votes and proceedings of October session, p. 79.

Annapolis, 17th May, 1773.

WHEN the first frivolous publication of my petulant adversary made its appearance I happened to be in this city, my books and papers 30 miles off, I therefore hastily, and from memory, drew up what occurred to me, from the general idea I had of the state of accounts between us; having since look'd at my papers, I am abundantly satisfied of the propriety of what I asserted. On my return to town I prepared for the press a more distinct relation; but the Gazette was crowded and no room then for me; the delay has given me an opportunity of seeing Capt. Coolidge's (if I may call it his) second performance, and believing that I am to the full as much entitled to publick indulgence as he is, I make no scruple to continue to defend myself against his malevolence without the smallest degree of "penitence" or "remorse."

The two pieces he has published, are, such pitiful, rambling rhapsodies of gross falsehoods, palpable contradictions and groundless insinuations, with so little method or connexion, that it is no easy matter for me to collect any sense or regular charge from them. As to the first, I allow the entire merit of it; it is a just picture of its worthy father; for the second, I cannot believe that he is the author; but that some wag, (who I am not displeas'd with) a total stranger to the transactions, without seeing the papers, or paying regard to facts or dates, has at a venture stretched away, and indeed, to say no worse, "bantered his friend's understanding" most confoundedly.

The subject is of a private nature, and of so little consequence, (none at all to the publick) that I think my time very ill spent in the controversy; the settlement of the accounts, nor the value of them, is the point aimed at; to hurt me in my business; to interrupt and plague me at this very busy time of the year, when my ships are arriving and beginning to load, is what this turbulent and mischievous son of envy hopes to succeed in. Capt. Coolidge has charged me with having refused to let him have the accounts and to settle with him; this I denied;—recollecting himself in his second publication, he desires the publick to "mark" how the matter stands; and "judge," who is the calumniator! "About eight years ago" (says he) he let me have a thing which he called an account "stuffed with queries, queries," observe upon what he pretended to be his own account against me;

"this I understood to be a banter on my understanding (poor gentleman) and resented it; he had the grace, as it happened, (God bless us!) to take it back, promising to let me have a proper account, which he never complied with, though called upon by Mr. Brogden in 1762 and 1766, by Mr. Brookes and Mr. Singleton Wootton, and another gentleman."

I am very sorry the names of those young gentlemen, for whom I have a proper regard, should be made use of on such an occasion;—what liberty they have given to Capt. Coolidge I know not; what they will assert under their hands after my being present and asking a few questions I shall pay due respect to; but as to him! I pay none; nor ought I, or any man, to pay any; for, what he has so confidently and circumstantially asserted is absolutely false and directly contrary to the truth; and a man must be out of his senses, as I believe him to be if he ever had any, or CASE-HARDENED in impudence, to print such glaring falsehoods in the face of the world. I have such authentic accounts, papers and vouchers, under the hands of those very persons, the same Capt. Judson Colledge, the same Mr. William Brogden, and the same Mr. Singleton Wootton, (I mean no reflection on the two last, unless they wantonly lent their names) ready to be produced, as will flash conviction on any sensible mind; some of the accounts I have shewn to Mr. Craufurd at Marlborough, and to Mr. Jacques mayor of the city of Annapolis.

"He let me have a thing, which he called an account, STUFFED with queries!"—I gave him a fair, clear, regular, distinct account, upon a large sheet of post paper folded the long way, full, and very closely written by Mr. Singleton Wootton, copied from my Marlborough store books—and a fair, clear, regular and distinct account, copied from my Pig-Point store books by the same Mr. Wootton—both which things or accounts, without queries, were a long time in the possession of the same Capt. Coolidge, as long as he pleased, and bear evident marks and his hand writing; they were afterwards returned to me with a thing indeed called an account—"Dr. Stephen West in account with Judson Coolidge, Cr." extracted from those of mine, wrote upon four sheets of paper by, I believe, Mr. Brogden; on this thing or account I hope to live to make some future remarks, at present I shall make very few; the first date is in 1761, the last in 1767—his assertion of 1765 and 1766 therefore falls to the ground.

On the credit side of this his account against me is the following entry:

"By amount of your Pig-Point store account—credited after."

This credited after however never came to pass—for at the end of the account, when Capt. Coolidge and his clerk, Mr. Brogden I take him to have been, summed up the account and struck a balance, it appeared, according to their way of keeping their things or accounts, that the balance against me was £. 48 : 14 : 2 coil of goods, and £. 30 : 8—currency—and the balance due to me £. 53 : 13 : 10 sterling, "exclusive of your Pig-Point store account and freight of rum," which account and freight appear at present, save errors, to be about £. 30 coil, 52 £. sterling, and £. 62. currency; sums, which, if credited as they ought to have been, and which I hope they will some day be, would have made the balance considerably in my favour.

I have several other droll remarks to make upon this same thing or account delivered to me; it appears upon the face of it, that great pains and care hath been taken to garble and scrape up every article that could be brought against me, and, among other "cute strokes," "To bounty on sail duck £. 1 : 15 : 9"—He has charged me with the bounty sure enough; but the devil a credit has he given me for the sail duck itself, seven whole pieces. Had S. W. given such a proof of his "dexterity in settling accounts and other little matters," it would have been trumpeted and carried post by the usual whippers in, from Patuxent, to Patowmack, to Annapolis, to Baltimore, and to London—and every old woman in breeches or petticoats would have been told it. From this small specimen of the candid and exact Capt. Coolidge, a judgment may be formed of him, of his books, of his accounts, and of the probability of easily settling with him—of all men in the world he has the least right to attack others, or to cast the first stone. He may deny, but I think Mr. Brogden will not, their having my accounts; there are no queries that I know of in them; "the thing called account stuffed with queries" surely cannot apply to those I have mentioned; so that his "mark how the matter stands &c." is point blank against him.

But "he let me have a thing called an account stuffed with queries, queries observe upon his own account against me." Let us try to find this "thing stuffed with queries," what shape, colour, appearance, taste or smell it has,—a thing stuffed with queries! I might as well attempt to find out the right end of him or his argument!

I have a paper, a literal copy of which I will trouble the publick with, that the world may indeed "mark" and "judge" of this strange man, and of his more strange; if that be possible, assertions. The paper has this indorsement: "Copy of queries sent to Capt. Coolidge. Sir, in examining your account against me I am in doubt about the following articles—

March 17. 1762. 2 match coats, co. 13/9.—I credit every article of goods that day but them; see your book if they are not charged to me instead of some other person.  
October 6. 1762. 2 p. of snabs, 136 ells—32—extended £. 7 : 17 : 4 q' if this is not an error of £. 3 : 6 : 8.  
Decr. 2. 1762. 1 hhd rum 114 galls—a 5/3 chd in my book a 4/5 to Wm Murdock—is not 5/3 too much.  
May 2. 1763. Order to Mrs. Green.  
June 8. Order to Mrs. Green. know nothing of field's carpenters 10/—  
June 8. Order to Mrs. Green. know nothing of field's carp.—10/—  
June 17. Cash 7/6—where or for what.  
July 6. 6 gross scythes, 4k if at 4/—mine, only cost 2/ to 2/6.