

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1773.

TO THE PUBLICK. THE DEPUTY-COMMISSARY'S GUIDE. The Press, and will be speedily published.

to the publick in general, who so fully and extensively subscribed to, and approved this my undertaking, I solicited, and obtained the favour, from the several gentlemen of the law, in this place, to peruse the paper, they have been so obliging to do it, and of their approbation, have permitted me, in the following letter, with their signature, to lette,

Ye have perused your manuscript, entitled "The deputy-Commissary's Guide," and do much approve of it; we apprehend your performance will be of general utility, and it well deserves the encouragement of the publick.

We are your's &c.

THOS. JENINGS, J. HALL, THOS. JOHNSON, junr, SAMUEL CHASE, Wm. PACA, Ja. TILGHMAN, 3d, W. COOKE.

fundamental principles on which testaments depend, being derived from laws, in themselves uncontrollable by any local acts of assembly, the treatise can be little affected, by any external regulation. In some few instances, the testamentary laws now existing, may, possibly will, soon undergo the revision of the Legislature. To amend and correct which eventual additions, a number of blank leaves are added to each book, in which, every possessor may himself enter the proper alterations, agreeable to the advertisements I shall here to time insert in the Gazette, whenever alteration shall take place.

Subscription having increased far beyond what was conjectured, and provision made for, there is but a small number of copies to be distributed. Those therefore, who still chuse to be subscribers, are requested to be speedy in their application, as none but such can have their names in the title page.

I am, The publick's Devoted servant, ELIE VALLETTE. Gentlemen who have been so obliging to take in subscriptions, are requested to send in the original papers the day of August, to Their obliged servant, E. V.

Charles county, July 17, 1773. The 11th of October will be sold at George-Town, a house and lot, formerly purchased by Barnes and Ridgate from Maj. Thomas Adair—three lots in the addition to George-Town and five lots in Carrollsburgh.

On the 19th of October will also be sold on the same premises, a lot of ground near Newport in Charles county, whereon is a large new-house that is either for a store or dwelling house; also on the same day will be sold several tracts of valuable land near Newport, containing between 6 and 10 acres, formerly belonging to Mr. Robert Barnes, also sundry lots of ground or parcels of land of Chaptico manor, also several likely tracts with the stock and plantation utensils of the late Mr. Barnes and Ridgate.

above will be sold at publick sale on the 15th of August, and twelve months credit will be given to the purchasers, on giving bonds on in security, if required. To be sold at private sale, as soon as a purchaser or purchasers shall offer, the following quantities of goods at Mess. Barnes and Ridgate's store in Charles county, viz.

Port-Tobacco, about £. 2300 coll. Newport, about 1600 George-Town, about 2000

Terms of sale for the above goods will be advantageous to the buyer, and may be known by applying to either of the subscribers, or to Mess. Barnes and Ridgate, at George-Town, Mr. Joseph at Newport, or Mr. Zephaniah Turner at Charles county.

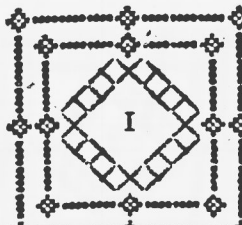
JOHN ROGERS, THOMAS STONE, PHILIP R. FENDALL, Trustees for Mess. Barnes and Ridgate.

BEN and SON.

TO THE PUBLICK.

"Who'er to modern patriotisms aspires, Let him read me, and be what he admires."

ANON.



CANNOT say, that I thoroughly approve of this new fashion of our writers of setting their real names to their pieces. To an inquisitive mind, there is a pleasure in owing discoveries to itself; and, it is as small a compliment as can well be paid to a reader, to have something left to his own sagacity to find out. He is a poor reader, who, desiring to be known, remains unknown, without the formality of his name. This is not said at random: Who did not instantly know the individuality of our FIRST CITIZEN; who did not discern his characteristic marks under the varied signatures of ARIEL, and A PLANTER; or, still more recently, lying verdu, behind the names of Thomas Johnson, junr, Samuel Chase, and William Paca?—I will give into no such novel mode, which, with submission be it spoken, I think almost beneath a very great Patriot; yet will I tell as much of myself, as may enable every one that reads my paper (which, I hope, will be as many as can read) to point me out, and cry, as I go along the streets, there goes the great Patriot. And as I own it will mortify me exceedingly, to hear any body ascribing to another the honour due to me, I desire people to take good notice, and mind what they read.

I have a plantation of between five and six hundred acres of as good land as any in Maryland, with ten working slaves, who make me, annually, from fifteen to twenty hogheads of tobacco. These were left me by an old curmudgeon of a grandfather, who died when I was an infant; and who, in the main, was a good kind of man enough, though the conditions, on which he left me this estate, are, to be sure, most unaccountable. It may well surprize the world, to be told, that they are, neither more nor less, than that neither myself, nor any of my posterity shall ever be either a burges, or a lawyer, unless we be scholars; by which he explains himself to mean, unless we be acquainted with the learned languages, and the lord knows what besides. He might just as well have said, at once, that we never should be burgeses, or lawyers. It is well for this country, and I do most cordially congratulate my fellow patriots on the occasion, that they had not such grandfathers, as mine was. A pox o' the pother, which these parsons and their patrons make with their Latin and Greek: good parts are better than the eight parts of speech; and as for their declinations, and undeclinables, the best way is to decline them all. In my case, this restriction has been peculiarly hard; having not only had an early inclination for law and politics, but, if my friends did not flatter me, very promising talents that way, improved by a more liberal education than has fallen to the lot of some very great patriots. For, my father, whose veneration for learning rose in proportion to his own want of it, which, he was conscious, had lost him the estate, was determined to make me a scholar; and so put himself to the expence of buying a convict servant, who was both a weaver—and a schoolmaster. The progress I made under him, in the two years and a half that he had him, is incredible; I could read every word in the bible, excepting, perhaps, the hard names, without spelling; and had not my tutor just then run away, there is no saying where I would have stopped. This was a fatal check to my pursuit of scholarship; yet, being naturally studious and pains taking, I continued to improve myself under such helps as I could meet with. The clerk of our parish lent me some books, by which I profited greatly, and, long before I was sixteen, I had gone through Thomas Hickathrift, Tom Thumb, the seven champions of Christendom, Wit's academy of compliments, complete letter writer, and many other learned pieces. From this period, my studies took a graver turn, and I now procured and read Jacob's law dictionary, abridged by himself, the young attorney's guide, every man his own lawyer, and Bacon's body of laws, the journals of the lower house, debates of a political club, as printed in the magazines, gradually proceeding on to Cato's letters, and the independent whig, and so finishing with the excellent writings of Churchill, Wilkes, Junius, and Mrs. Macauley. What proficiency I have made in these, I had rather should appear from my after labours, than that I should now speak vauntingly of.

Living at no great distance from the seat of government, which, in honourable imitation of the metropolis of the mother country, now takes the lead in all patriotic movements, I often visit it, and am on the best terms imaginable with the patriots there. Wishing (as authors are always ambitious) to be introduced to the notice of the publick, with my best foot foremost, I trust, these great men will pardon my thus publishing the intimacy with which they honour me. Nor will I doubt of a favourable reception, when it is known, that I am the friend and confidante of Mess. C. C. of

C. T. J. jun. S. C. W. P. and J. H. all of them capital patriots. Let not the world rashly conclude, from this hint, or, because, I, confessedly, am a man of some CUMSTON, that I mean to insinuate, that I have ever actually assisted any of them in their late exhibitions: courtly malice may sneeringly suggest this; but, surely, they have long ago given sufficient proofs how able they are to write without assistance. I wish, I could say as much for myself.

"Ministerial hirelings and court sycophants" have painted the First Citizen, as a proud great man, who looks down on little folks below him. I deny the charge, as, surely, I well may; having myself, no longer ago than the last session, walked cheek by jowl with him all the way from one of the lawyers, where he had been catering materials for a reply to Antilon, to the assembly, where I too was admitted into a committee room; and, on an interesting occasion, freely permitted to club my quota of hints. Equally groundless is the charge of his being oppressive: What, has he not been declaiming against oppression, in others? But, one fact is worth a thousand arguments. I know a man, who owing him a pretty large sum for interest, out on the day of payment, I dare say, very near a whole week, when, though, beyond all question, he might have charged him interest on interest, he freely and generously forgave him every penny of compound interest that had accumulated in all that time. I, however, am not worthy to be his panegyrist; yet, should my publications, take, as 'tis called, and I be encouraged to go on with them, I am not without hopes of his furnishing me, now and then, with some Latin and French;—and then let "the meddling, turbulent priest" of Prince-George's stand clear. Surely, I need not hint to him how grateful I should be—Ah, would he, ay, would he only supply me also with a few maxims (and, I know he has enough and to spare) I should not be afraid to encounter even Antilon himself.

With Mr. C***, I am hand and glove, and have been so for many years. We were early cronies, and many a game have we played at five corners, an exercise ominous of our future enterprises. There was a wonderful congeniality in our tempers and manners. Both of us were brought up in revolution principles; and it is remarkable, that the first instance we both of us gave of our political attachments, was, in shewing a partiality to the rump. It was an odd conceit of Cornelius Scriblerus, that a rump of beef doth "hebetate and clog the intellectuals." I, ever, from personal experience, that I owe it entirely to my early predilection for that "particular part of the animal body," as Hume says, that I am not only so staunch, but so intelligent a republican. Would to God, I could be to my friend, all I wish to be! Then should he not have been reduced to the sad necessity of DOUSING a brace of half joes, for a lampoon on Parson B——. But, if I live, he shall not be unrevenged. A piece is begun, though not in Latin, which, if I mist ke not, will make that "uncharitable priest" sing as small, as Mess. C. and P. whilom made him. I intend to sign it—TERRIS, a word pregnant with a very significant meaning, which, however, I will not undertake to develop to any but the initiated.

Mr. P***'s courtesy and politeness are well known. Affable to all, he is peculiarly so to me. Yet, there are cases wherein we differ: he loves calapash and calapace, I a rump—he sometimes goes to court; I never. We disagree, however, as friends and freemen should, without acrimony, or warmth. He respects my zeal in the good cause of opposition; whilst I admire the vast depth and solidity of his judgment. The transparency of his ideas, the brilliancy of his fancy, the graceful flow of his elocution, the manly vigour of his stile, are all equally admirable. I am of Cæsar's mind, and like to have about me such sleek-headed men. Yet, there are seasons, when even such a man may under write himself. Oh, let but green-finn'd oysters come in play again, and the world shall see, how he will figure and caper once more on our political theatre. Mean while, with that lambent smile which, with such resistless grace, plays on his smooth and glossy cheek, he will pardon, I trust, my vanity, in thus triumphantly publishing to the world the honour I derive from my acquaintance with him.

Mr. J***, to be sure, is a very different kind of a man;

"Seldom he smiles, and smiles in such a sort
"As if he mock'd himself, and scorn'd his spirit,
"That could be mov'd to smile at any thing."

Yet this I will say, that no man takes more pleasure in opposing government, than he does; and, albeit, some others have made more noise, I will not easily be induced to believe, that any man has been more industrious in fomenting the present opposition. If the face, as has been said, be an index of the mind; look at his, and you will need no other illustration of the cordial benevolence, the exalted generosity, and disinterested patriotism which animate his soul. He too is my friend and familiar acquaintance, and a most social, joyous, companionable man he is! I have free ingress and egress, just as I please, in to, and out of his office. Nay, I do believe, he would once have asked me into his house, and, mayhap, to have dined with

him, but that, they say, it is a rule with him never to ask any body, but his own relations.

Pardon me, Mr. H***, that, in this list of chosen friends, I name you last—but, tho' last, not least in love. Had you not been dear to me before, the matterly speeches you made in the last session, on the subject of an establishment (though, I know, some people supposed 'twas all in joke) would have given you a strong interest in my heart. More especially did I admire your expedient of sending our clergy to exclaim three children; a project which could not easily be battered, unless, in imitation of the First Citizen's priests, you were to enjoin them a total celibacy; or, finally, at once, make them, as the script e' paks, "eu uehs" for the kingdom of Heaven's sake." If I have any merit, let me, in gratitude, acknowledge, how much of it I owe to you. My patriotism, my oratory, my skill in writing, have all been improved by your documents. Nay, scorning, j'edaw-like, to strut abroad in borrowed plumes, I hesitate not to declare, that as Mr. J***, with his wonted obligingness, did me the favour to revise and correct some of the inaccuracies in the grammar and spelling of this piece, so does it owe to you some of its nicer touches, and all its "grace and ornamental parts." Aware, that some sharp-nosed critic would have found it out, I thought it best to make a merit of confessing it; and so little ashamed am I of being thought worthy the assistance of such elegant pens, that I go on, still farther to declare, that if there be one vein with nearer to my heart, than another, it is;

Teach me, ye gods, my merits to requite,
Like J***y H*** to speak—like J***y H*** to write.

Here I might, and, perhaps, it may be expected that I should, give something like a receipt how to make a right, true, genuine, Maryland patriot. But, perit deo that example goes far her than precept, and having, myself, thus studied the science at the fountain-head, I fancy I shall do more towards teaching my countrymen this fashionable accomplishment, by going on with the narrative of my friends, and my own, public life and opinions, than I could by any dry, abstract rules. Having, therefore, already told whom I associate with, let me now add, whom I do not associate with. I name fit it piece, then, I never go to the governor's court (knowing my principles, I suppose) he never asked me; which, I own, I have sometimes thought "a little strange," as the man is said to have a knack at finding out, and a propensity to carets, men of sense. When he fit it came into this country, something of this; I grant, was true; ah, what days were those! I confess, in the first transports of joy, confident that all my friends were instantly coming in, I looked to have been, myself, a thief, at least. But, alas! the "wicked minister," "born to perplex, distress and afflict this country," unseasonably, stepped in, and spoiled all. I am sure he did, as sure as that he was the whole and sole contriver and author of the proclamation. "O EDEN! EDEN! had you relied on your own many judgment; it is the choice of your friends and favourites, had you been guided by the patriotic dictates of the First Citizen, and his four coadjutors and fellow-labourers; in the disposal of your places and fellow-labourers;

"EDEN had been a little god below."

"Antilon I constantly run down; and I find objections to him in abundance. His being on the side of government is, in my judgment, of itself, proof sufficient of the wrongness of his principles. For, what great man, I ask, was ever a friend to government? Were not Sidney and Hampden; whose corruption a thousand Darymples shall never convince me of, were not Cromwell, and Wilkes, and Junius; all, to a man, against governments; and, to put the matter out of doubt, is not our own First Citizen against it? But, this is not all; he has such a power of book-learning; and is so generally esteemed by men of learning, that, it is evident; he must be dangerous. We can judge only by comparison: the best friends of the people despise "a parade of learning," which, they say, serves only to "make fools gape and stare." And, they, certainly are right; since, had they themselves been crammed with a deal of learning, they, probably, never would have been such patriots as they are. His stile too is so crabbed and high-flown, that there is no reading it, without a dictionary—how inferior to the smooth, soft, easy, lullaby strains of the First Citizen!

For much the same reasons am I against Mr. Hammond, whom (and I thank them for it) the triumvirate have now fairly laid on his a—. What business, I wonder, had he,

like courtier folks,
On-blowers, to crack his jokes?

Besides, to give the lie direct to men happy in the confidence of the people, was a most unpardonable piece of impudence. I am glad, with all my heart, that they passed this over; instructed by the example of the First Citizen; they do well to consider it as a thing beneath great patriots, to vindicate themselves from the imputation of being liars. Go then, you wrong-