

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, O C T O B E R 21, 1773.

Bladensburg, Sept. 29, 1773.
to go to England this Fall, therefore
indebted to me, and those who have
plaint me, are hereby desired to come
accounts with

FRANCIS HATFIELD
by the subscriber in Bladensburg,
ABLE tract of land, lying in Frede-
unty, about ten miles above Bladen-
near the same distance from George-
ing 300 acres, well improved, with
ng. house, kitchen, quarter, tobacco
use, stables, and a good garden well
very large apple, peach, and cherry
y person inclinable to purchase, may
and view the land by applying to

WILLIAM MURDOCK
Subscriber having lately purchased a tract
nearer and more convenient to him,
ent on reasonable terms, several ad-
of land, which form one very com-
1800 acres, lying on the head of Red
over Dam branches in Queen-Anne's
venient to church and mill, within 8
head of Chester river, where there is a
market for every kind of grain, seven
tobacco warehouse on the said river,
from a landing on Delaware bay.

extend to a place known by the name
Dam Causeway, a very publick situ-
kind of business, there being from
roads leading to Chester-Town, Head
Dover, and Hopper's mill, formerly
They are capable of great improve-
much having been already done in that
uld be immediately profitable either to
rchafer, and having full 300 acres of
grounds that may be drained at a small
d some of which are already well im-
enty of fine timber, and all the advan-
ing flock that an excellent range can
almost unnecessary to point out the fu-
them to the publick; who are well ac-
n the continuing use of landed proper-
ll be disposed of together or in parcels,
nit purchafers or tenants, and if other
agreed on, purchafers may have a long
ent on paying interest. Those who
o buy or rent, will please apply to

THOMAS RINGGOLD.
a clerk, to whom I will give good
n person who writes a good hand, under-
standing, and can be well recommended
y diligent attention to business.

of the lands advertised in this Gazette,
s, to be on the 22d inst. is put off till the
g, (on account of the fitting of the pro-
when they will certainly be sold to the
at the house of John Holley, on the
sterling or current money, by

ZACH. MACCUBBIN.
by the subscriber, on the premises, at
ndue, on the 18th of October, 1773,
T of Land called Wallingsford Pur-
containing 142 acres, lying in Prince-
unty, on Cat-tail branch, within four
denburgh; the soil is good either for
arming; the sale to begin at 11 o'clock
on.

JAMES WALLINGSFORD.
ted, and to be sold by the subscriber at
g, by wholesale or in single packages,
EL of German osnabrigs and rolls,
woollens, consisting of bed blankets,
ts, broad and narrow clothes, dufil,
and shalloon; also a parcel of faddery
and a small quantity of linen handker-
w4 **ROBERT DICK.**

July 5, 1773.
y from the subscriber, living in Well-
county, Virginia, two white men fer-
William Walker, alias Smith, a convict,
in 1771, in the Scarsdale, Capt. Reid,
rdener; he is a slim made man, five feet
inches high, brown complexion, blue
hair, has a remarkable swing in his
e voice and a cough; he had with him
tton jackets and breeches, white, check,
shirts; he likes drink, and has been
ped before a magistrate; this is the third
un away; as he had sailors cloaths with-
tempt to pass for a sailor. Thomas
ndented servant, (who came in last April,
y, Capt. Raifon) a trunchy well made
mplexion, brown hair, which curls in his
nd face, hazle eyes, speaks quick, a
ade, underitands gardening and farming;
ourteen months on board a man of war;
her's steel and knife, and wears quils in
ad with him, a brown cloth coat, second-
ket, black breeches, white, check, and
s, and some money; he will attempt to
or; and I hear they intend to Baltimore.
hia. Whoever apprehend the aforesaid
d secured them in a jail, so that I get
ceive a reward of five pounds Virginia
each of them.

RICHARD LEE,

JEN and SON.

TO THE PUBLICK.

Non est desperandum: fortasse non canimus surdis. Nec enim tam in malo statu res est, ut desint sane mentes, quibus et veritas placeat, et monstratum sibi rectum iter et videant et sequantur
Lactant. Div. Inst. L. V. p. 417. Ed. Sparke.

IT has become fashionable in some, who wou'd fain have their opinions pass for law, to decry every thing that is sharp and poignant in writing. With them even Attic salt and Roman worm-wood are "scurrility and abuse": tho' without some such seasoning, controversial writings, in general, wou'd be insipid and disgusting. I mean not to plead for real scurrility, by which I have suffered not less, than those who have complained more. Even in a good cause, it offends; in a bad one, it is insufferable. Yet, there are occasions when, as Milton says, "a tart rhetoric and a rougher accent" are unavoidable. But, what is most provoking, is, that none are so ready to fall out with an off-hand acrimony in others, as those who are most guilty of it themselves. A certain writer, of no ordinary note amongst us, in a piece published some time since, and sign'd, A PLANTER, complains most grievously of "scurrility and abuse"; and perhaps, there is not, according to his abilities, a more abusive author living, than himself.—Candour's maxims flow from rancour's throat.—For the little, abusive insinuations which, in the piece before me, it has been suppos'd, he threw out against one individual clergyman, it were a pity to quarrel with him. These things are common; and that gentleman having run his hand into a hornet's nest, it were strange, indeed, had he escap'd stinging. He must have read his whiggish and republican pamphlets to little purpose, had he not learn'd to dash a "ministerial hireling, and court sycophant" in the teeth of his adversary. Even Cato's letters will supply him with such tart rhetoric in abundance, and I wish not to stint him in the use of it. For, I neither ask, nor expect any quarter of him. Nay, when he threatens to "rouse the indignation of the people" against all of my order, if he wou'd but "make his vauntings true, 'twou'd please me well" A silly and an impudent bravo, as if the people of Maryland were to be hounded on, just when he might please to "cry havoc." Let me whisper in his ear the reply of a celebrated Athenian, who, being threatened by a pragmatist orator, with the people's pulling his house about his ears, when they were in a rage;—ay, said he, but, what will they do to you, when they are in their wits?

The liberal spirit of the age we live in, with respect to religious differences, has often been remark'd; and, God forbid, I shou'd wish it otherwise! I hope, however, to be pardoned, if (owing, it may be, to the prejudices of education) I still am so tainted with the old spirit of our constitution, as to think we go rather too far, when we encourage a professed Romanist to intermeddle in a dispute concerning a protestant establishment. Even those fanciful politicians, who are pleas'd to consider an establish'd religion but as a state-engine, acknowledge the alliance between church and state to be such, as that he can be no sure friend to the latter, who is known to be an enemy to the former. Whether our church be really in danger or no, is foreign to our present enquiry: it is certain, she is in a state of perfection. At such a juncture, for such a man officiously to step in; and spurn her, was certainly not in the modern, liberal spirit, even of Popery. It was the conduct of him, who, finding a house in flames, wantonly or wickedly throws a faggot into it. And, unless we really now be of the spirit which, he says, our ancestors were of, and actuated neither by a "zeal for the establish'd church, nor a hatred of Popery," one might wonder so insidious an attempt has not been resent'd. He has somewhere said, that our "constitution is founded on jealousy." Be it so; it is jealous not of the conduct of administration only. Every page of our history shou'd "warn our representatives to exert the most watchful care and strictest vigilance" over the people of his persuasion.—I wish not to raise needless apprehensions, nor to involve others in his quarrel. If this should happen, they know to whom they owe it. I may, however, be permitted to add, that, I am persuaded, there has hardly ever been a period, since this country has been under a protestant government, when a conduct, like his, wou'd have met with such a reception, as it now has. What this may forebode, I care not to enquire—the real friends of their country will think of it.

Where our Planter pick'd up his traditionary tales of the motives that guided our legislators in days of yore, I know not. But, to believe these reports of his, which, I doubt, have come to him thro' a suspicious channel, in opposition to the written declarations of those legislators themselves, who, in the preamble to the act in question, profess themselves to have been guided by the most "laudable considerations," wou'd require a Romish faith. It was not enough to vilify the present friends of the church, without a sling also at her venerable founders. Ungrateful for a more ample toleration, than is granted to papists in almost any other protestant country; and stung, as it wou'd seem, with the recollection, that, as this province was

primarily granted as an asylum to Roman catholics, they should no longer have the dominion of it, he now rails against our establishment, "as subversive of the principles on which this colony, in particular, was founded, and repugnant to the spirit of colonization in general." This is a wide field for debate: happily, however, the question is already determined. He has not chosen to be explicit, but, his aim is obvious—an exemption from contributing to the maintenance of any but his own priests. What assurance his friends may have given him of success, in case of his making such an application, is not for me to conjecture: I shou'd, however, be little surpris'd to hear, that he did apply. And, if it will encourage him to go on, I may tell him, that shou'd the projected regulations take place, not a little will be gain'd towards it. But, surely, he overshoots his mark in quarrelling with all establishments. I am mistaken, if he wou'd not think it sound policy, and highly subservient to "the spirit of colonization," to have Popery established. He is no good catholic, if he wou'd not.

Nothing so easy as to find fault; and, in all popular difcontentments, the acceptable way is to fall in with the prevailing ill humour. A piece of policy, this writer is well skill'd in. Finding the tide run against the claims of the clergy, he too falls with the stream, and thinks "forty pounds of tobacco per poll is an exorbitant provision—and, consequently, unreasonable." Full and copious as these terms are, still they are but comparative; and without some positive, to which they may be referr'd, quite vague and indeterminate; amounting to no more than this, that it is his opinion, that it is so. Now just so do I think of the provision which his church draws from this province: and my opinion is, at least, as unbiased and impartial as his. Our revenues are unknown to every one, that chuses to know them; and, in truth, often magnified far beyond their real value. The property of the church of Rome is under a very different predicament. It might be curious, and, perhaps, not altogether useless, to see an account of its annual amount. I am greatly out in my guesses, if it be exceedingly disproportionate to our "exorbitant, and, consequently, unreasonable" salaries. And, whether it becomes this protestant country to have as much, or, but half as much, annually drain'd from it, for the support of popish ecclesiastics and endowments abroad, as is given for the maintenance of a clergy of our own, let those, to whom this appeal is made, judge.—I too think that it is "exorbitant, and, consequently, unreasonable," that a lawyer, whose talents are, by no means, superior to other men's, shou'd make from one to two thousand a year, by his profession, whilst a clergyman is to be stinted to two hundred. In the name of common sense, what are the mighty services which these men have done, or can do, to the community, that they, alone, shou'd monopolize all our little honours and emoluments!

"Why, Sirs, they do bestride our little province, like Colossuses: and we petty men walk under their huge legs, and peep about to find ourselves dishonourable graves."

I wish, we could be favoured with a fair view of the amount of their incomes: I am strongly of opinion that they would be found to be more than double those of the clergy, whose profession is neither less honourable, nor less necessary. In this country, I think, I have been told, that the tobacco fees, which the sheriff had to collect for lawyers, amounted to 120,000: the private fees, I should guess at in vain. I presume, the case is the same all over the province. And yet, these are the men to exclaim against the "exorbitant" salaries of the clergy.—Men, forsooth, to whom "this country is under the greatest obligations;" whilst we, "ceteri omnes, strenui, boni, nobiles atque ignobiles, vulgus sumus, sine gratia, sine auctoritate, his obnoxii, quibus, si republica valeret, formidini essemus. Quæ quorunque tandem patiemini, fortissimi viri?"

It is, methinks, no great proof of political wisdom to select the imperfections of any country, as models for imitation. In most respects, we should do well to emulate the publick spirit of our sister colony of Virginia. We chuse, however, to copy her in almost the only instance, where it has happened, that she is unworthy of herself, and sordid. But why, I pray, adopt her ideas in one instance only? sure I am, her laws for the regulation of practitioners of the law, are not less expedient for us, nor less worthy our imitation. If, however, we must needs go to Virginia for instruction in church affairs only, an apposite instance occurs to me, in that way too. They have patriots, as well as we: like ours too, to advance their own interests, they once got a law passed, to pay the clergy money, in lieu of tobacco. The clergy (as unworthy as we are) appeal'd to the king, and obtain'd redress. The law was repeal'd, and instructions given to the governor never to pass such another.

Reformation of grievances is, confessedly, a good work, when it is indeed wanted: that is, where the abuses complain'd of are real, where the advantages reasonably to be expected from the reformation will certainly counterbalance the risk that is run in at-

tempting it, and where it is conducted not only by warm hearts, but by cool heads, by such as know how to build, as well as how to pull down. The only grievances, I think, that are pretended to be complain'd of in our present establishment (if I may be pardon'd for presuming to think we still have one) are, that the provision is "exorbitant," and the mode of payment unequal.—On the subject of the inequality, little needs be said: it is, on all hands, allowed to be a grievance. But, as it has ceased with the inspection laws, which first gave it birth, surely, in framing such laws anew, it can require no great depth of legislative skill, to provide for the ease and convenience of the farmer, without partiality to the planter, or injustice to the miller. It would be hard and unequal, that his case should be consult'd at the single expence of the latter, without any benefit to the former. And, to extend the alternative alike to farmers and planters, wou'd be to reduce the clergy, in general, to most abject poverty, and thus, eventually, disgrace and ruin the church.—

"Hoc itachus velit, et magno mercentur atridæ."

The farmer, as well as the planter, has a staple: wou'd it not then, effectually and easily, remove this objection of inequality, were each, the first offerings that were ever made on a religious account, tax'd with the payment of an allotted part of the produce of his labour, to the support of religion? I know of but one material objection to this, viz. it might, in some parishes, really make the salaries exorbitant, were the farmer to pay a bushel of wheat, as the planter does 30 lb of tobacco. Or this, the obvious remedy is, to divide the parish, and thus still farther and better dilemmate religious instruction. To found an establishment to be supported by money payments only, is, at least, unusual: and must, of necessity, be (as the Roman historian speaks of the imperial city in its cradle) "Res unius ætatis." For it will be impossible so to regulate it, but that, in a very few years, it will want to be re-regulated. And, it is incongruous with the idea of an *establishment*, that it shou'd be unstable. No money is of any certain, perpetual intrinsic value: a fluctuating, provincial currency is still less so, than sterling money. It is not impossible, but that a pound in Maryland may, some time or other, become of as little value as a pound in some of the New-England governments. Admitting, then, that two hundred pounds currency a year, which, it seems, is now thought a liberal allowance, were really so (tho' more than that might have been received from the common interest of the money expended in educating many of us, without sinking the principal) how will our successors be in a condition to support their stations with decency, when the same denomination of money may not answer a half, a quarter, or a tenth of that sum? this objection our Planter endeavours to get over, by referring us to Virginia, where it, by no means, applies; the clergy there, as well as here, being paid in the staple of the country. And, if one may indulge conjecture, it, certainly, is more probable, that the first framers of an act for the establishment of religious worship, preferred a tax of forty per poll; to a fixed allowance of 16,000 lb of tobacco, for this reason, that the revenue might encrease with the encreasing expensiveness of living, and also, that a natural, easy, and certain fund might be provided for the extension of the national religion, than that they shou'd act upon such unworthy principles, as this author ascribes to them. I doubt not but that, in those cheap and plain times, sixteen hhds. of tobacco enabled their possessor to live as comfortably, and as respectably, as three or four times that number do, in this rich, expensive, and selfish age.

I am no advocate for large salaries. That there are many such in this province, is, indeed, often asserted, but has not yet been prov'd: tho', doubtless, it is a matter of too much importance to be taken upon trust. A salary is great or small, as it exceeds, or falls short of, what will maintain him who receives it, respectably, in the country he resides in. Judging by this principle, there is not more than one parish greatly, if at all, too large. That one excepted, so far from being an object of envy to an English bishop, there is hardly another equal to the income of any common attorney. And, even of that one, it is unfair to judge by the reported number of taxables: between these, and what the incumbent actually receives, there is a wide difference.—In England, the revenue of the church, I believe, is estimat'd at two millions. This, divided by an equal poll-tax, taking the inhabitants at eight millions, wou'd come to five shillings per poll, including women and children. Divided, as it is here, amongst such only as we call taxables, (supposing the women and children, each, to be but equal in number to the taxable males) it would be about fifteen shillings.—The revenue of the church in Maryland, if paid in tobacco at thirty per poll, wou'd, I imagine, be about two thousand hhds, which, at twenty shillings per C. wou'd be £.20,000. Let the taxable inhabitants be set down at 80,000 (and they are thereabouts) it comes to about five shillings per tax, and considerably less than two shillings currency per poll: certainly, no very heavy burthen! compar'd with