

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, O C T O B E R 13, 1774.

From the PENNSYLVANIA JOURNAL.

A MONG the variety of means that have been proposed for obtaining a repeal of the three Boston bills (as they are called) and the tea act, a general non-remittance is one. This proposal stands condemned by many, merely from its supposed injustice. It may, perhaps, with some propriety, be compared to a sheep in a wolf's coat; and if so, the general disapprobation it has met with is not at all to be admired. We are apt to judge from appearances, without sufficiently examining the nature and merits of the cause; and our prejudices frequently lead us into hasty and wrong conclusions. Thus a sheep, in a wolf's coat, however harmless and useful the animal might be, would probably, on its first appearance, be condemned and destroyed. And as we are all, from our cradles, prejudiced against, and taught to detest the fraudulent withholding of a debt; therefore, whatever bears such appearance, though, perhaps, from certain concomitant circumstances, rendered perfectly just, shall, like the sheep in the wolf's coat, be instantly condemned.

In order, however, a little to divest ourselves of this prejudice, let us suppose that two neighbours, A. and B. have, by some accident, have dealt together, and supported a good understanding many years; but that A. at length, takes it in his head, without any cause or provocation, to seize and detain one of B.'s children, with a design to enslave it; that B. is at this time one hundred pounds indebted to A. and has no way to prevail on him to relinquish his child, but by withholding payment till he does; and then ask yourselves seriously, whether, in this case, it would really be unjust to withhold payment; or, rather, whether the purest laws of God and nature would not absolutely enjoin and require it? Must not the parent who would voluntarily, in such case, put the means of his child's redemption out of his power, for only the frivolous purpose, comparatively speaking, of paying a debt, be totally destitute of the generous feelings of compassion, or utterly ignorant of the real value of liberty?

But the people of Great Britain (among whom our creditors are included) are not only endeavouring to enslave our children, but enslave us also. The means we see are already contrived, and with horrid force carrying into execution. And if to obtain freedom for an individual a just debt ought to be withheld, surely to obtain it for, and secure it to millions, will justify an act of the same nature. If payment in that case would have been criminal, must it now be infinitely more so in this? Where so great and general a good is depending, to give up any part of the means requisite for obtaining it, must approach near to unpardonable.

I said the people of Great Britain are endeavouring to enslave us: I consider their conduct in that light. The acts which have that tendency were passed by their deputies—by their servants, and they have not so much as remonstrated against them. Their silence is an evidence of consent. But we have further evidence: our friends in parliament, by way of complaint, openly declared that the people of that country approve those measures, and wish to see them carried into execution as much as the majority of that house. The minister might invent, and the parliament might enact, but it is the people that are to support and enforce them.

It is, therefore, Great Britain in her collective capacity, that we have to dispute with; which seems to render the most general and powerful mode of opposition that we can possibly devise and carry into execution, consistent with the laws of God and our country, absolutely necessary. Partial measures, 'tis true, may irritate—they may distress, and even ruin many individuals both at home and here; but an arbitrary minister, with a venal parliament at his heels, will easily brave the storm of their resentment. Whereas if we adopt measures that will send distress to every part of the whole empire, our enemies must soon yield to the force of our argument. Here, I presume, will be the time for us to remonstrate; to send the mother-country a state of our grievances, with a boundary-line sketched out between her power and our own. Being convinced of her error in supposing herself omnipotent, she may, perhaps, have an ear to hear, and a heart to yield to right reason.

Nor can I but be of opinion, that we shall stand firmer to our engagements, in a short, general, and vigorous opposition, that will diffuse its burden and loss upon us all, than in a partial lingering one, borne only by a few. To throw the whole burden of the contest on our dry-goods merchants, appears too replete with injustice to bear a vindication. If we all wish to partake of the advantage, let us all be willing to pay a part of the price.

The farmer, who insists that the dry-goods merchant shall cease to import, though the measure should even deprive him of bread; and yet, through fear of some frivolous loss to himself, very wisely protests against non-exportation, certainly merits the utmost contempt. Nor does the farmer, in this case, stand alone; the miller lays claim to public spirit; talks loudly for liberty; and also insists upon a non-importation; and in order to enforce the scheme upon the merchant, will readily agree to a general non-consumption; but no sooner is non-exportation sounded in his ear, than his mighty public spirit, like Milton's devils at their pandemonium consultation, is instantly dwarfed. My interest, sir—I cannot part with that!—Alas! if a general non-exportation takes place, what shall I do with my mill?

Liberty is in this good man's opinion a goddess, and

he passionately wishes to live under the benign influence of her smiles; and yet, rather than forego the profits of his mill for the space of a year, this goddess of his may perish, and his country be bound in ever-during chains of slavery. Oh shameful partiality!—Shameful meanness!—Such selfish souls even taint the very air they breathe in: their disorder is infectious and spreads among the people: our councils are ensnared by the schemes they produce; and the laudable spirit of liberty is sickened by their breath.

We have however farmers and millers, who breathe forth sentiments of a different nature; and who well deserve to be ranked with the foremost of our patriots.

Soon after William II. came to the crown of Great Britain, there appeared divisions amongst the people respecting his right. The parliament empowered him to borrow money on his revenues; and the advice of his friends was, borrow what you can—the more you borrow the more friends you make; interest is a stronger tie than principle. The king took their advice, and soon secured in his favour the monied part of the nation.

The same reason will operate in favour of non-remittance. The more we owe the British merchants, the more they will exert themselves in our behalf. In proportion to the debt, it will ever be their interest to ward off such measures as may tend to work our ruin, or cause us to revolt. But the moment we pay them their demands we release them from this obligation; and, in some degree, set them at liberty to unite with our enemies in working our ruin. They may perhaps find other customers for their goods; but the debts we owe them they can never expect to receive from any other quarter; and therefore, should we be drove to the utmost extremity, they are sure of losing the whole. Nor will this loss affect them only, for it must very sensibly affect the nation in general.

It is, I know, said, that some of these creditors are our friends; and that it would be unjust to do any thing tending to injure them. But then it is also said, and as truly, that necessity has no law. We are indeed very sorry that British measures have laid us under the disagreeable necessity of using means of oppression injurious to British merchants, and more especially such as are really our friends. But I know of no law, either moral or divine, that requires us to love our friends better than ourselves. If the best friends we have should be unfortunately obliged to suffer with us, all that they can ask, or we can grant, consistent with the laws of nature and self-preservation, will only be to sympathize with them in their affliction, and endeavour to obtain their relief by obtaining our own. They must have too much good sense, I presume, to think hard of us for adopting a measure so essential to our preservation. They know, they feel that self-preservation is the first law of nature, and that it ought to be, above all others, religiously regarded. Their breaths may indeed swell with indignation against the men whose callous and corrupt hearts have compelled us to do things so injurious to them, and unpleasant to ourselves.

Whatever the British merchants might lose, however, by a general non-remittance, I am clearly of opinion they would lose far more by a general non-importation. For although non-remittance will operate most speedily, and, with regard to influencing their conduct, probably do us most service; yet, upon a supposition that trade will again revive, and remittance be made, it must do them less damage: they will then have the satisfaction of receiving their whole original demands with interest. Whereas if a non-importation takes place, their usual profits on trade, thereby withheld, together with the losses on perishable articles, and the interest on the value of goods lying upon their hands, must be dead loss to them for ever: which will probably far exceed any loss that could possibly attend their lying out of their money. But then, if matters should be carried so far, as to prevent remittances ever being made, their loss must be prodigious: and this is what it will put them upon to prevent; and the fear of this, we may reasonably suppose, will stimulate them to exert every nerve in our favour.

When I consider the importance of what we are contending for, I own I cannot but think it would betray a great weakness in us to decline adopting any one salutary measure, either through fear of loss to our friends, or to ourselves. If every means in our power to use will no more than ensure us success, how fatal may prove the diffidence of any one? Hath it not been consistent with the wisdom of whole empires, to spend great part of their wealth, and the purest of their blood, in defence of their liberty? And when their dreadful struggles have been crowned with success, have they not ever thought the enjoyment far superior to the price it cost them?

If it is Britain collectively that we have to contend with, then in this, as in all other national contests, the innocent must unavoidably suffer with the guilty: our friends with our foes. It is impossible for us to point our weapons against our enemies only; or indeed, in this case, to point them against the principals at all. But it is not impossible for us to wound a lion in his foot as soon to disorder his whole body, and grievously sicken his head.

We are not now to consider what will affect individuals in Britain; but what will affect Britain in general. We ought not to regard the sentiments and conduct of particulars there, so as to model our measures to screen them; but we ought to attend to, and regard the sentiments of Britain collectively as one great individual:

and in like collective capacity ought we to consider ourselves; and also to

If then Britain's demand of debt against us, and we a demand of a different nature, but superior in value, against her; with what propriety or justice can she expect payment, when she refuses to allow us our superior demand? We must certainly, agreeable to the strictest rules of equity, and the general practice between neighbour and neighbour, have clearly a right to withhold payment, until she condescends to come to a settlement. When this settlement is obtained, and the demands on each side are fully and fairly stated, and the balance struck; this balance, whether it falls in favour of her, or of us, will be the sum total that ought to be paid. But as the articles of our demand against her are inconceivably valuable, being no less than liberty, peace, and a free trade; I believe we may venture to anticipate the settlement, and safely conclude, that the balance will certainly prove in our favour; and that it will be by much too high for all the wealth in Britain to pay. And if this be the case, as I presume it is, then it will necessarily follow, that she can never have a balance in her favour, nor equitable demand of debt against us, until those three articles of our demand are again restored to our possession.

As these articles, however, are seldom, if ever, met with in books of account, some people may, perhaps, affect to sneer at their being considered as articles of charge, proper to balance the demand of debt the mother-country has against us. But whatever ideas, with regard to proper articles of charge, custom may have riveted in these men's heads, I imagine the unprejudiced will conceive with me, that whatsoever is of value to mankind is, with mankind, a proper article of charge. And our lawyers will tell these gentlemen, that whoever illegally deprives another of his liberty, peace, or trade, is not only liable to a charge therefor, but to an action also.

And if Britain denies us the benefit of the law, for the recovery and enjoyment of those invaluable articles of our demand against her; totally refusing to listen to our plea of legal constitutional rights—of solemnly granted charter privileges—and of her faith plighted and confirmed to our forefathers; she sets us a striking example to deny her merchants the benefit of the law, and the assistance of our courts, for the recovery of their demands against us; even though we had no equitable right to withhold them. Such equitable right, however, I suppose really and fairly to exist; and yet am I far from holding it just, that those merchants, if innocent with regard to the malpractices which gave that right existence, should bear the loss; for their rulers, who have so wantonly and wickedly brought the mischief on them, ought, no doubt, upon the purest principles of equity, to make them whole.

And now, before I conclude, let me just observe, that I remember to have seen, in some of our papers, a very founding protest against a resolution of a respectable county, in a neighbouring colony, in favour of shutting our courts against the British merchants, in order to withhold payment for a time. The protesters might possibly imagine, that such high terms of censure as they were pleased to express their disapprobation in, would awe people into a detestation of the measure, without considering the ground on which it was proposed. In this perhaps, they were not wholly mistaken. It frequently happens that we are misled to condemn an effect, without first comparing it with, and weighing it against the cause that produced it. To withhold a just debt, without just cause, would certainly be wrong; but then, to withhold a just debt, with just cause, would as certainly be right. I have not only endeavoured to shew that such just cause may exist, but also that it really does exist, in the case now depending between us and the mother-country, and which gave rise to the resolve I just now mentioned. If I have been so happy as to succeed in these two points, then I presume it will follow, that to stop payment, agreeable to the spirit and design of that resolve, will neither injure our consciences as christians, nor our credit as traders.

A L T O N A, July 5.

IT is certain that there is an exchange on the carpet between the king of Prussia and the king of Great-Britain, in his quality of elector of Hanover. His Prussian majesty is to give his britanick majesty for the principality of Saxe-Lauenbourg, a certain district in the old Marche named Dromeling, with some bailiwicks in the country of Halberstadt. If this exchange takes place, it may prove disagreeable to the city of Hambourg, on account of certain rights, which the said principality pretends to have on the bailiwick of Borgadorff possessed in common by the cities of Hambourg and Lubec. These rights have been heretofore claimed by the house of Brunwic-Hanover, but a sum of money was at that time given to stop it.

PARIS, July 11. Count de Marbeuf, has demanded of this court a reinforcement of 12000 men, in order to enable him to subjugate the malcontents of Africa, who every day revolt more and more.

July 18. Two pamphlets are come out here, in which it appears, that from the 16th of June, 1772, to December, 1773, out of 59 drowned persons who received the necessary help to call them to life, 45 have been saved.

AMSTERDAM, July 25. It is always with satisfaction that we announce fresh parts of the memoirs of the

Annals, Septem...
arrived in this city in his way...
returning the beginning...
who are disposed to apply...
pointed, he will be at the...
consult him in all disorders...
ulcers, cancers, abscesses...
and inflammations in the...
of a malignant nature, and...
glands are destroyed but also...
who have had the misfortune...
may have teeth transplanted...
on the old stumps; and artificial...
to a complete set, so that they...
sleep with them as natural...
tricks for preserving the...
from any corrosive preparation...
for all disorders of the teeth...
Its superior efficacy over any...
pills will be evinced in case...
vitiated juices, and renders...
the breath beyond description...
stagnating, or cloying odours of...
it also makes the teeth white...
the gums to grow firm to the...
a pure and balsamic, is perfectly...
the scurvy, and restores the...
taste; if the teeth and gums have...
by some skilful dentist...
to the principal nobility, gentry...
France, Ireland, Holland...
places in Europe, also to some...
The dentrice may be had...
at Mrs. Howard's coffee house...
Williamburg, where all the...
of vessels, may be supplied with...
foreign parts, with proper...
each pot is sealed up with...
the margin of the directions...
W 4.

E S O L D,
land called Upper-Marborough...
res, situated and lying in...
great road leading from...
Town, and at the distance...
Tilmore Town. This land...
for building; and is well...
arming, having a very...
quantity of meadow ground...
are two small tenements...
may be divided or sold...
two other tracts of land...
also main Falls, the one...
partly in Anne-Arundel...
is about 18 miles from...
land is very rich, has plenty...
of a very fine mill seat;...
rent at 10 pounds per...
is in the adjoining...
rich and full of fine...
is indisputable.

JOHN WELSH,
Virginia, June, 1774.
of the Honourable the...
attorney from Colonel...
now in London, will be...
of land in the county...
it's ordinary; about 12...
from Alexandria, and 35...
back; this land is well...
Bull Run Mountains, and is...
Shanahondah river in the...
to Snicker's ordinary;...
about seven miles; as...
of the fish in that part...
cannot be questioned;...
of two mills on the...
there are now on it...
crops, one hundred...
and several hundreds...
black cattle, hogs...
with the crops of corn...
to be upwards of 2000...
will be sold on the...
next, if fall, the...
lands will be sold at...
of the same month;...
to suit every kind of...
applying to Mr. Franks...
lands, and Mr. William...
Shanahondah tract...
are two good black...
ceeding rich, and...
cattle and grow...
and...
pounds; will be allowed...
giving bond and security...
is prepared to take...
JOHN TAYLOR,
GEORGE WASHINGTON,
plantation of...
county, a stay...
years old, about...
and...
water may have...
paying charges...
1774...
forgot, a large...
bag, a...
the above...
those persons...
publicly...
handy young...
small-pox, and...
of employ.

THOMAS HYDE
and SON.