

at least the best they had; and, laying his hand on his breast, solemnly protested he would never have voted for the address without the proposed amendment, had he imagined they meant to refuse the necessary accommodations, on which the speech was supposed to be founded.

The house went into a committee on ways and means; and resolved, that the duties on malt, rum, cyder and perry be continued. That 3s. in the pound, land-tax, be laid on all lands, tenements, &c. for 1775.

Mr. Burke, according to order, presented a bill for permitting the importation of Indian corn into Great-Britain, on paying a duty of one penny per quarter, when barley is allowed to be imported on paying a duty of two-pence per quarter.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, December 16.

The house was this day remarkably full, considering the occasion, upwards of 300 members being present, including those in the gallery. Mr. Cooper presented the malt-bill, which was read and ordered to a committee. Mr. Burke took the chair in a committee on the Indian corn bill, which with the amendments, was ordered to be reported on Monday.

Ordered, that the house be called over on Wednesday the first of February next. The order of the day was called for by the house to go into a committee of supply; and Sir Charles Whitworth having taken the chair of the committee, Lord Barrington moved, that 17,542 effective men be employed for the land service, for 1775.

Mr. R. Fuller rose and said, he had no motion to make, but he would be glad to know from the noble lord at the head of the treasury, if he had any information to lay before the house, or any measures to propose, respecting America; because if he had not, he thought it the duty of parliament to interpose and call for papers, and proceed on such information, however defective, as well as they could. He added, that he looked upon the measures adopted by the last parliament impolitic and impracticable; and that they could never have been prudently or effectually put into execution.

Lord North confessed the very great consequence and importance of the subject the honourable member now mentioned; said it would require the utmost diligence and attention, as a matter of the greatest magnitude ever debated within those walls. He could not, he said, entirely acquiesce in the condemnation of measures hastily, which had been taken up and adopted on such weighty motives; that at the time it was impossible to foresee precisely how they might answer; but the shortness of the time and other circumstances considered, they should have a fair trial before they were reprobated; and that the wisdom and policy of them could be only finally known in the event. He concluded, by assuring the house, that he had information to lay before it shortly after the holidays; and that he would so far adopt his honourable friend's ideas behind him (Mr. Fuller) as to propose to appoint a committee for taking the state of America into consideration.

Mr. X. ruger, as a young member, gave his opinion on the state of the colonies with great becoming diffidence; and was heard with a considerable deal of attention. He recommended conciliatory measures, but rather went a little out of his way to compliment the minister.

Lord North, on the whole, was plausible, sententious, and affected great moderation; governor Johnstone having alluded to something his lordship had said on a former occasion, relative to Great-Britain never receding or relaxing, till America was at her feet; his lordship observed that it was hardly fair to quote what a man had said seven years before, and what he had explained on the spot before he left the house; this explanation then, and now was, he said, that by being at the feet of Great-Britain, he meant obedience to the mother country. Such as if they thought themselves aggrieved to apply by petitions and dutiful remonstrances to the parliament or the throne. He said, he thought it the duty of every member, as well in the house as out of it, to interpret what might fall in the heat of debate, or warm discussion, in the manner it was explained by the speaker. That if he had been thus candidly dealt with, the author of a late pamphlet, written in America, could never have asserted, that he insisted that Britain should never recede, till the laws and liberties of America were at her feet: for as he never meant the one, so he never said the other. And he wished that, on the present occasion, he should be understood according to his present explanation, and no other.

Mr. Haley was for making the Americans contribute to the general defence of the empire, by way of requisition, and read in his place one or two of the resolutions entered into by the continental congress, to shew their willingness to comply with such a measure.

The question was at length put on Lord Barrington's motion, and agreed to; as were the others in course, providing for the whole of the military establishments.

N B W - Y O R K, February 6.

Die Martis, 10 h. A. M. the 31st January, 1775. A motion was made by Col. P. Livingston, in the words following, viz.

Mr. Speaker, "I move that a day may be appointed to take the state of this colony into consideration, to enter such resolutions as the house may agree to, on their journals; and in consequence of such resolutions, to prepare a humble, firm, dutiful, and loyal petition to our most gracious sovereign."

On the question, whether the house agreed to said motion? It passed in the affirmative, Nem. Con.

And then a motion was made by Mr. De Lancey, in these words, viz.

Mr. Speaker, "I move that a memorial to the lords, and representation and remonstrance to the commons of Great Britain, may be prepared, together with the petition to his Majesty."

On the question, whether the house agree to the said motion? It passed in the affirmative, Nem. Con.

A N N A P O L I S.

TO THE P R I N T E R S.

THE present unhappy contention between the mother country, and her colonies, is a matter of the deepest

concern to every honest—to every feeling mind;—it is therefore the indispensable duty of every friend to society, to study and to pursue those methods, which may lead to a perfect reconciliation, and the establishment of a permanent union between Great-Britain and America.

The principle of parliamentary taxation over this extensive part of the empire is generally denied by all ranks and denominations of men; the grand subject of controversy, therefore, that prevails at present, respects the most eligible method to obtain redress.—On this point there appears a division in sentiment, which has given rise to heart burnings and discontent, and in some degree struck at the root of that harmony which, at this important period, ought to guide and influence every action.

In opposition to measures dictated by calmness and moderation (a steady adherence to which, it was generally supposed, would be attended with the most happy effects) a military appearance is assumed—subscriptions are industriously making for the purchase of arms, ammunition &c. and the severest censure is indiscriminately passed on those persons who happen to dissent from the popular opinion, and prefer more conciliating methods of accommodation.

It is certain that there are many in this, and other provinces, who object to the spirit of violence, which seems at this time too predominant.—Convinced of the propriety of their sentiments, and the integrity of their hearts, they conceive that the cause of America may be fatally injured by a precipitate and unnecessary defiance of the power of Great-Britain: they firmly believe that a respectful behaviour to their sovereign, and their mother country—a dutiful and constitutional application to the throne—and a firm perseverance in virtuous, though pacific principles will, in the issue, be productive of the most felicitous consequences.—Actuated by such considerations, they cannot be reconciled to those violent extremes which have been too rashly adopted by many—and which they are anxious to establish, as the only feasible plan of terminating the present dissensions.

On deliberate reflection, it can hardly be imagined, that the mother country has formed the least intention of reducing these provinces to a state of abject servility by the force of arms—the natural connexion—the cities—and nice dependencies, which exist between the different parts of this empire, forbid indulging any conclusions of so melancholy a nature.—He will be more just—more tender to her offspring—the voice of reason will prevail—our grievances will be redressed—and the will be found, to the end of time, a kind—a fostering parent!—But admit that Great-Britain, were determined to enforce a submission to all her mandates—even in that case we have little cause to apprehend, that she will unsheath the sword, and establish her decrees in the blood of thousands.—A more safe and certain method is obvious:—a small proportion of her naval power would intirely shut up our harbours—suspend our trade—impoverish the inhabitant—promote intestine divisions—and involve us in all the horrors of anarchy and confusion.—To avoid evils (even great as these) we are not meanly to bend the neck, and submit to every innovation.—But when there is no prospect of such dreadful calamities, why are we to form ideas of battles, and of slaughter?—Why are our coasts to be refound with hostile preparations?—the demon of discord to stalk at large—and friends and kindred forget the peaceful bonds of amity and love?

It has been objected, by the advocates for moderation, that the methods pursued to complete the subscription for arms, &c. has more the complexion of an arbitrary tax, than a voluntary contribution.—On the other hand, it has been asserted, "I had money raised in a manner, where there is no obligation to pay, but a sense of duty; and no other mode to induce compliance but shame and infamy;" cannot be deemed a tax.—A sense of duty is undoubtedly the most noble incentive to worthy actions;—but a false dread of shame and infamy has perverted many an honest heart, and too frequently proved an irresistible temptation to dishonourable practices.—Let us a moment reflect:—Can there be an imposition more arbitrary and severe, than a necessity of assenting to any particular measure—or forfeiting that fair—that well-merited reputation—which alleviates the cares of life, and smooths the inevitable, rugged path, to the dreary mansions of the grave?—

- " Good name in man and woman— " Is the immediate jewel of their souls. " Who steals my purse, steals trash; 'tis something, nothing; 'Twas mine, 'tis his, and has been slave to thousands; " But he; that filches from me my good name, " Robs me of that, which not enriches him, " And makes me poor indeed."

If I differ in opinion from the multitude, must I therefore be deprived of my character, and the confidence of my fellow-citizens, when in every station of life I discharge my duty with fidelity and honour?—DEATH—the certain tax on all the sons of men, were preferable to so abject a state.—No—'twere better to suffer "il that "age, ach, penury, imprisonment, can lay on nature," than resign that glorious inheritance of a free-born subject—the liberty of thinking—speaking, and acting, agreeable to the dictates of conscience!—I frankly acknowledge—no man has a right to disturb the peace of the community, by broaching tenets destructive to the true interests, and welfare of his country;—but, at the same time, it cannot be justifiable to compel others to adopt every system, which we may esteem conducive to the public good.—Let us therefore be unanimous in virtue—in frugality—and in industry;—let us conduct ourselves on the Christian principle of "Doing to others as we would have done to us;"—let us not, in the frantic moments of intemperate zeal, mistake libertinism for liberty, and commit outrages, which we shall recollect with shame—and condemn with heart-selt anxiety.—While we contend for the inestimable blessings of British subjects, let us not assume a tyrannical authority over each other.—In a word, let reason and moderation hold the scale in every important determination—so shall we be firm in the cause of honour, and true patriotism—so shall every real grievance be effectually redressed—every man shall sing the song of gladness under his own vine, and we shall at once be FREE—be LOYAL—and be HAPPY!

I am, SIR, Most sincerely, A FRIEND TO AMITY.

By his EXCELLENCY ROBERT EDEN, Esq; Governor and Commander in chief in and over the Province of Maryland.

A P R O C L A M A T I O N.

WHEREAS the present general assembly of this province stands prorogued to Tuesday the 5th day of this inst. February, and whereas there is no business of moment which requires their attendance at that time, I have thought fit, with the advice of the Lord Proprietary's council of state, further to prorogue the same, and I do hereby further prorogue the same to Monday the 27th day of March next, and to the intent that all persons concerned may have due notice thereof, I do hereby charge and require the several sheriffs of their respective counties, in the usual manner, as they will answer the contrary at their peril.

Given at Annapolis, this fifteenth day of February, in the fourth year of the lord proprietary's dominion, annoque domini 1775.

Signed by order, JAMES BROOKS, Cl. Sec.

C U S T O M - H O U S E. ENTERED. NONE. C L E A R E D.

Brig Mary, John Cathrick, for Ilbracomb. Brig Sally Van, Richard Jackson, for Jamaica. Sloop Cumberland, Joseph Titcomb, for Falmouth.

Philadelphia, January 14th 1775.

P R O P O S A L S

FOR PRINTING BY SUBSCRIPTION,

In four pages folio, on a good letter, and demy paper, in size and quality, equal to the Pennsylvania Gazette, or Journal,

T H E P E N N S Y L V A N I A M E R C U R Y, A N D U N I V E R S A L A D V E R T I S E R.

THE subscribers beg leave to inform the public that from the solicitation and encouragement of several gentlemen of reputation, they have entered into a co-partnership, for the purpose of printing a news-paper, to be published weekly on Saturday, which they engage to do, on the most free and impartial principles, consistent with the strictest secrecy and decorum.—Upon those principles; and those only, they take the liberty of requesting the patronage of the public, assuring them that the utmost exertion of their abilities and industry in every particular will be used to make the Pennsylvania Mercury and Universal Advertiser, as improving, instructive, and entertaining as possible. For this purpose they intend giving their readers a relation of the most remarkable and important occurrences, foreign and domestic, collected from the magazines and papers in Europe, and America, as well as from other sources, having a particular regard to such matters, as shall most intimately relate to the welfare of the colonies.—To communicate advertisements of every kind—the arrival and departure of ships—all interesting marine intelligence—improvements in agriculture, &c. &c. with such ingenious observations as may tend to the entertainment of the public—nor shall a place be wanting for judicious remarks; essays, moral, historical, political, geographical, and poetical of the learned of both sexes, in this and the neighbouring provinces, whose general assistance is earnestly requested, and to whom the paper shall be ever free, and their productions received with gratitude—fully intending to establish a correspondence in Europe, the several colonies in America, and islands in the West-Indies. They hope this all due encouragement will be given to so laudable an undertaking, and therefore wish to prosecute their design, so soon as a number of subscribers are procured sufficient barely to support the expense, relying on the kindness of the public, for further encouragement, as their performance shall appear to deserve it. Those ladies and gentlemen, who may please to favour us with their subscriptions, shall (in the city, district of Southwark, and northern liberties) have their papers handed to them, at their respective houses, or if in the country, forwarded by the first opportunity—nor shall any care be wanting, to transmit them to the most distant customers, with all the expedition possible.—the rates of the paper and advertisements will be the same with those now printed in this city—all advertisements shall be inserted in order as they come in, and shall appear in a fair and conspicuous manner—and as it is our wish, to give the most perfect satisfaction, our best endeavours shall not be wanting to make the paper as complete as possible, nor shall any partial motives, whatsoever, induce us to swerve from the assurances we now give the public.

Together with a publication of the Pennsylvania Mercury and Universal Advertiser, we propose carrying on the printing business, in a correct, careful, and diligent manner; and any person that may please to employ us, will be attended to with respect and fidelity.

Subscriptions for the Pennsylvania Mercury, and Universal Advertiser, will be taken in by the publishers, at their respective houses, by Mr. John Airey, at the Post-Office, Philadelphia, and by several other gentlemen in this and the neighbouring colonies, to whom subscription papers will be immediately patched for that purpose.

We are respectfully the public's Most obedient friends and servants, ENOCH STORY, DANIEL HUMPHREYS, son of John

THE credit Phillips Queen's town, February, in of their claim Knotts, late jail, by virtue entitled an ad

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