

be sold at the Printing-office
EDING'S
THE
ENTION
OF MARYLAND,
Annapolis, on Thursday the 7th of
ember, 1776.

(XXXI YEAR.) THE MARYLAND GAZETTE. 65

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1776

PRINTING OFFICE,
Annapolis, on Thursday the 7th of
ember, 1776.

Records of the commissary's office
Upper Marlborough, by the
of Safety for the province of
to give this public notice,
of that office will from hence
that place.

Commissary's courts are by law appointed
of Annapolis, where the same
continued, the commissary re-
as far as in his power the dis-
people, from the removal of
from the capital, hath refused
in every court week, which
Tuesdays of May, July, Septem-
and to that end, will hold his
uesday in said months at the city
convenience of the inhabitants
and others whom it may be-
thence proceed on the Thurs-
rough, there to sit during the
for the dispatch of public busi-

for the greater ease and con-
ants of Anne-Arundel county,
with me as deputy commissary,
give attendance every Tuesday
ornelius Garretson in the city of
pope.

ELIE VALETTE, registrar.

of Cecil County, March 19, 1776.
mitted to my custody, on sus-
a runaway, by the name of
Irishman, about 25 years of
inches high, long black hair,
light coloured coat and waist-
coches, a half worn beaver hat,
kings, and old shoes. He says
in this country, and worked
as a journeyman, barber with
Philadelphia; and from last bar-
with Mr. Clements, barber in
s master, if any is desired to
hitr away, and if any of the
make it appear that he is a
cleas'd according to law.

RICK, of Cecil county.

delivered at the contractor's
in Annapolis,
of potatoes, parsneps, carrots,
beans, or any kind of Indian
given the highest prices, by
SAAC M' HARD,
for Mr. ROBERT CUMMINS.

BE SOLD,
of land, containing 230 acres
ted upon Back creek in Fride-
four miles of George town and
150 acres whereof are in wood,
enclosed by a good fence; there
the aforesaid land may be made
the trouble. I have likewise for
near or adjoining the town of
in Prince George's county, with
thereon, and a valuable mill in
is all seasons. For terms apply
near the aforesaid town, or Wil-
county.

Annapolis, March 26, 1776.
the subscriber, an indentured ser-
Edward Busford, born in
ve feet two inches high, fair
n hair: had with him two cloth
n brown, the other of coarse
with waistcoat of the same,
ckskin breeches; ribb'd worked
made shoes. He is very fond
ve no better reason for his e-
he often merited chastisement.
Should he be taken ten miles
e 20 shillings reward on his

J. CLAPHAM.

AM CLAUDE,
WELLER, and SILVERSMITH,
nson's tavern, ANNAPOLIS,
acquaint the public in general,
n particular, that he still conti-
foresaid trades in all their vari-
most reasonable rates; also that
s all sorts of fire-arms, smil-
cutlasses: He also makes hooks
test and most approved manner.
eral goods of hoo^l ^{at} ^{the} ^{store}

12
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
N.

CASSANDRA to CATO.

(Concluded from our last.)

THE king of Great-Britain, though our
king, will ever join the parliament against
us, as often as a contention happens. The
parliament are his tools; and their illegal
claims are only a specious covering for his
endeavours after arbitrary power in the first place; and
in the second place, his crown, his dignity and his sup-
port, depends entirely upon their grants, and not upon
ours. He will therefore take part with them on every
occasion. On the contrary, his representatives are not
so dependent on us as to oblige them to take part with
us. This is not all; for in every province, where they
had the power, they not only refused to concur in our
measures, but also prevented us from making use of our
representatives, that we might not have the shadow of a
legislature to support us. And even in those provinces
where his power has not extended so far, he has constan-
tly gone as far as he could. This is not all yet; for
in many they have corrupted the ignorant and illite-
rate by bribes, set up the royal standard against us, and
obliged us to fight under every disadvantage. Is it
not so, Cato?

There is, therefore, a capital defect in our chartered
Constitutions. A defect which makes an essential diffe-
rence between the present state of our liberties, and that
secured to Englishmen by MAGNA CHARTA. A defect
which, if not effectually removed, will oblige us
ever to hold our liberties at the point of our swords
or by that most precarious of all tenures, *will and pleasure*.
The immortal barons were too wise to be duped by fair
promises. They drew their swords, determined to ob-
tain absolute security; and they did obtain it. They
obtained by *Magna Charta* the constitutional right of
levying war against the king as often as he should at-
tempt to infringe upon the liberties of the people.
Were our governors the choice of the people, and depen-
dent on them for their salaries, we would, in the
present case, be able to make a constitutional resistance
to oppression; to oppose constitution to constitution.
But this not being the case, the parliament has plainly
the advantage. It is necessary, therefore, to our secu-
rity, to have our governors as much dependent on the
people of America as the king is on those of Great-
Britain, before our constitutions can be of any service to
us against British encroachments; or, that when our
governors refuse their concurrence, our representatives
shall have the privilege of setting them aside, and acting
legislatively without them. This is a clause essential
to the security of the rights of America, as the clause
which grants to the people of Great Britain the right of
declaring war against the king, when he attempts to
disturb their privileges. Will Cato stand it out till this
is obtained?

But as the contest is between us and the parliament,
we ought now to enquire how we can be secured against
parliamentary encroachments. The constitution of
Great-Britain is such, that what this parliament does
the next can undo. And it is impossible for one par-
liament to pass a bill, which will not be liable to a re-
peal by any future one, without destroying the *very ef-
fence of its own constitution*. Is there any remedy against
this defect, Cato? Let us see the *constitutional depend-
ent principles*, if you are a friend to liberty, which will give
absolute and permanent security to our liberties, and not
leave us at the mercy of our enemy; and then we will
talk further on the subject. We have gone too far; and
have too much sense to rest our future safety on the pro-
bability of her letting us alone for the future.

Our constitutional connexion with Great-Britain is
the very plea alleged by Great-Britain for her attempts
to enslave us. Now if this constitution is the *very foun-
dation* of her claims, if she, in consequence thereof, has
de lared us *rebels*, which she could not, unless she sup-
posed we violated the constitution by our resistance;
and if it was not in our power to make effectual oppo-
sition in strict conformity to the constitutions she gave
us, why is Cato so fond of reconciling on these principles
and on no others? This looks not like honesty, Cato.
If you love America, and your attachment to the *cause*
is real, ANSWER TO THESE THINGS. A lover of truth
and liberty will be afraid of no queries whatever. You
say you have viewed the ground on which you stand,
and are not afraid to tread it in the fight of the most
vigilant son of liberty. Here it is, come forth then,
here I wish to find you. But I beseech you examine it
thoroughly first, explore its hidden recesses; for I am
well assured it contains a secret mine, which, if once
sprung, will either blow up you and your party, or our
liberties.

This continent has had a twelve years constant expe-
rience, that the constitution of the colonies could not
protect them from British oppression. Can you deny it
Cato? However it be against your present designs, yet
this you must acknowledge. Can you tell the first day a
committee existed on this continent? Did not that day
tell the world we had no constitution that could with-
stand British oppression? Can you remember the time
our assemblies were first dissolved, for attempting to cor-
respond with one another, on the subject of our griev-
ances? Did not that time convince *even Cato himself*,
that our constitutions were not equal to the task of pro-
tecting themselves? Do you recollect the hour our
worthy governor refused to call our assembly, to consult
on ways and means to preserve our liberties? Did not
that hour inform you, that the *chartered constitution* of
Pennsylvania could do nothing for us? Now if after so
long, and so severe a trial of their defects, we should still
take up with them on the recommendation of Cato;
might not the world, particularly that part of it which
you say is looking at us, laugh at our stupidity and folly?

Your first argument in support of your creed is, that
"agriculture and commerce have hitherto been the
happy employments by which *these middle colonies* have
risen into wealth and importance. By them the face of
the country has been changed from a barren wilderness
into the hospitable abodes of peace and plenty." I for-
bear to point out your constant endeavours to separate
the interest of the *middle colonies* from the rest; as if the
wealth of the whole arose not from the same sources;
or, as if your description of one or two would not an-
swer for all. I also forbear to mention the care of your
party to have your letters, though addressed to the
people of Pennsylvania, reprinted in New-York and
Maryland papers. When you have gone through the
demonstration how we can have effectual security to
our liberties under so defective constitutions; then, and
not till then, I shall call upon you to prove that agricul-
ture and commerce would decay, if the whole world
were our market instead of the British islands, and a few
foreign ports to which we are most graciously permitted
to export a few articles. I will also call on you to con-
vince us, that a severe restraint on our trade in many in-
stances, and in some a *total prohibition* tends to enrich us.
And here it may not be amiss to shew how poor the
Hollanders have grown, since they became independent,
and were obliged to support all the expences the *Com-
mon Man* has mentioned. But Cato has given an om-
nion proofs of his attachment to trade, by declaring
that he will arm again^t us as soon as we form any *ali-
ance* with such powers as are able and willing to draw off
the *British fleets* from blocking up our ports. Our ports are
now effectually shut by the fleets of Great Britain; and
there is a total stop put to our exports. We have not yet
a fleet which can open them. Our grain is spoiling, and
the powers of Europe longing for an opportunity of
taking it off our hands: All this can be removed by
the alliance proposed. But Cato sees this would eter-
nally frustrate the designs of his party: He has there-
fore laboured, by every artifice of cunning, to prevent
our taking any step of the kind. He hopes the country
will by this means be brought to submit; and he will
triumph in our folly. But where is the real danger to
our liberties, Cato, in accepting the assistance of a
neighbouring fleet, until we have time to fit out one for
the purpose? Were we to do this, would not agriculture
and commerce flourish as usual?

That much of our former tenacity was owing to the
protection of England, is not to be denied; and that we
might still derive great advantages from her protection
and friendship, if not valued at too high a price, is equally
certain," says Cato. I could pardon a few Italian
murmurings, and hankerings for the onions of Egypt;
but, to be incessantly called back to what we enjoyed
while Joseph lived, when behold a *Pharaoh novus rex*,
who knew him not, is insult not to be endured. Cato
cannot pretend ignorance of the price of the friendship
he so strongly urges us to court. If he does, he is cer-
tainly a very dangerous guide for the good people to
whom his letters are addressed. Cassandra affirms the
price is no less than an *absolute surrender of all our rights,
liberties and property*, and these once given up, he
would gladly be informed what more is left for any
power to invade? All animals, under absolute dominion,
are nursed only to be fleeced; however problematical may
be the question of nursing the colonies, we have had the
fleecing demonstrated with a vengeance. Cato adds,
"If the present differences can be accommodated, there
is scarce a probability that the will ever renew the late
fatal system of policy, or attempt to employ force against us."
Two reasons induce me to think the mode of attack would
indeed be altered: For, to intimate as the author of our
oppressions is, he cannot longer flatter himself of our
falling an easy prey to his force, if now incessantly con-
tinued; his clemency would then certainly dispose him,
most graciously, to enslave us by his experienced much
more successful method of intrigue. But as Cato allows
it is not altogether improbable that this force may be
employed against us in some future day; Cassandra
would gladly be informed by what means we can be se-
cured from that force, when by the treaty of protection
we are cut off from the right of establishing a force of
our own.

Conscious that this poor contrivance is prodigious
stale, a thousand times repeated, and as often refuted by
most stubborn arguments, founded on twelve years in-
variable procedure, and really despairing to hold the
people long in expectation of a *former protection*, or any
more than a mere delusive change of the mode of at-
tack, and that change as ill disguised as any that have
preceded it: Cato adds, as if all were one connected
proposition; if they will not make up on constitutional
principles, "we have arms in our hands, and virtue
enough to use them." As to corruption, Cato would
have us believe there is hardly a man on the continent
in danger from that quarter. Would to God we had
abundant evidence of this universal integrity! Respect-
ing the arms, Cato, with much devotion I praise the
Director of human affairs that we have them in our
hands; and I pray and confide in his over-ruling pro-
vidence, that we may there keep them till our rights are
placed on a firmer foundation than the mere grace of the
conqueror at the destruction of millions on one side of the
globe, and contrivance of the devastations now daily com-
mitting on the other. Well might Cato tell us of our
arms; for he clearly foresaw that no wise man could
conceive himself safe in reconciliation on his *princi-
ples* without holding them in his hands continually. His
paragraph, after flourishing away on the original ground
of the contest, concludes, "and if, hereafter, in lapses
of time, it should be thought necessary to separate from
the land that gave birth to our ancestors, it will be in
our perfect state of manhood, when we can wield our
arms, and protect our commerce and coast by our own

fleets, without looking to any nation on earth for assist-
ance." Well said, Cato! Here we agree for once.
But now, that we are on good terms with each other,
let me ask you, in a friendly manner, how we are to be-
come masters of this fine fleet? Does Cato propose to
insist upon it as a *term of constitutional reconciliation* with
the AMBASSADORS, that we should be allowed to build
such a fleet? Or does he conceive, that when we are ar-
rived at just twenty-one years of age, and about to com-
mence house-keepers, our dear mother country will
make us a present of such a fleet to set up with? I con-
fess myself greatly incredulous of either! If Cato can
clear up my doubts on these important heads I will be
much obliged to him.

It has been asserted, says Cato, "that we are able,
with our land-forces, to defend ourselves against the
whole world—that if commerce be an advantage we
may command what foreign alliance we please—that
the moment we declare ourselves an independent people,
there are nations ready to face the British thunder, and
become carriers of our commodities to enrich them-
selves: And if this were not the case, we can soon build
navies to force and protect a trade, &c." Of this Cato
here intimates his suspicion, because, says he, it is not
fully proved. Cassandra will prove the first assertion
from unquestionable authority; for Cato in his fourth
letter says, "I will even go beyond him in expressing
my good opinion of our situation. He thinks foreign
assistance necessary to us; I think otherwise. We are
able to defend our own right and to frustrate the at-
tempt of any nation upon earth, to govern us by force."
Cassandra hopes, in a short time, to prove every asser-
tion of *Common Sense* from the same authority; he wishes
every position of Cato was equally consistent with *Com-
mon Sense*.

P. S. As the *Common Man* has called us to a fair dis-
cussion of the point, we once for all request every printer
on the continent, who publishes Cato's letters, to publish
our replies, and particularly Mr. Sower, of German-
town, that the subject may not only have a full discus-
sion, but a fair hearing.

CASSANDRA.

To the PEOPLE of PENNSYLVANIA.
LETTER VI.

IN the conclusion of my last letter, I charged the au-
thor of *Common Sense* with perverting the scripture
in his account of the origin of the *Jewish monarchy*. I
proceed to offer some remarks in support of that
charge.

"Monarchy," says he (meaning probably the insti-
tution of monarchy) "is ranked in scripture as one of
the sins of the Jews, for which a curse in reserve is de-
nounced against them. The history of that transaction"
(either the transaction of monarchy, or the transaction
of denouncing a curse in reserve) "is worth attending to."

This confused proposition he endeavours to establish,
by a commentary (upon 1 Samuel, ch. 8.) full as far-
fetched and ridiculous as he will probably say mine is
upon the prophecy of *Mount Seir*. But this matter must
be treated more seriously, for the sake of a country, in
which (God be thanked) the Scriptures are read and
regarded with that reverence which is due to a revela-
tion from Heaven; I must therefore endeavour to rescu-
e, out of our author's hands, that portion of the sacred
history, which he has converted into a libel against the
civil constitution of Great-Britain; and shew in what
sense the passage has been universally received, as well
by the Jews themselves, as by commentators venerable
for their piety and learning, in every Christian country.

The Jews were long privileged with a peculiar form
of government, called a *Theocracy*; under which the
"Almighty either stirred up some person, by an imme-
diate signification of his will, to be their judge; or,
when there was none, ruled their proceedings himself,
by *Urim and Thummim*, directing what course they were
to follow in the public concern of the nation." But they
were of an ungovernable temper, fond of pomp as well
as dominion over their neighbours; and, being disgusted
with the misconduct of Samuel's sons, whom, in his old
age, he had appointed his assistant-judges over Israel,
they came to him, and intreated him to appoint a king,
who might rule their nation, and avenge them of the
Philistines. Samuel, deeply afflicted at the impious de-
sign they entertained of rejecting the divine govern-
ment, prays to the Almighty for directions; who autho-
rizes him to hearken to their voice; for they have not re-
jected thee, but they have rejected me (says God) that I
should not reign over them. He also instructs Samuel to
enter a solemn protest against them for their folly and
ingratitude, in preferring a human to a divine govern-
ment; and to shew them the manner of the king that shall
reign over them, since they desired a king to judge them
like all the nations.

Now, all the nations, which they knew, were ruled
by kings whose ARBITRARY will stood in the place of
LAW; and it appears also that the Jews, since the day
that they were brought out of Egypt, had still retained a
particular hankering after the customs of that country.
The Almighty, therefore, by his prophet, not only sig-
nifies his displeasure against all such arbitrary rulers, but
against every people who would impiously and foolishly
prefer such a government to one immediately under
himself, where, in his providence, he might think fit to
appoint such a one. And so far I have no difference
with our author. But Samuel proceeds further to rea-
son with the Jews, and in the 15th chapter reminds

Lowell's Commentary.