

iron-works live at Birmingham, and are our bitter enemies, and even contributed to raise a regiment to reduce us to slavery; that he readily consented (and would answer for the Senator) to confiscate their estates, because they are inimical subjects of Great-Britain.

I have no acquaintance or concern with Mr. Buchanan, but am acquainted with most of the Principio company; part of them reside in this State, part in Virginia, and the remainder in Britain, and the proprietor (for one alone resides in that place) in Birmingham.

True it is, that the town of Birmingham, and a great many others in Britain, did contribute to raise regiments to reduce us to slavery: equally true it is, that none of the company contributed a farthing, and more especially the gentlemen in Birmingham, who not only had a considerable share of property, but near relations, in this State.

Some of the gentlemen concerned in those works are dissenters; all warm and firm whigs, and have from the beginning approved of the votes and sentiments of the minority with regard to the American war; they are great opposers of the ministry; their actions and sentiments were influenced not only by a sense of duty, but it was consistent with their interest; they had a large share of property here, some of them traded in these States, and have great and many outstanding debts, and some confined by their affection to the people and the ties of blood.

I will mention one fact, which I make no doubt will convince the Plebeian. When petitions were solicited by the ministry, addressing the king for continuing the war with vigour against North-America, Mr. Burke declared in parliament, that he had an anti-ministerial petition from the town of Birmingham, reprobating those ideas: this was signed by the only owner who lived in that town, his brother, and other inhabitants.

If all the friendship a man can exert, if his utmost wishes to do service to America, and every attempt in reason to put those wishes in execution, are not to atone for a man's unlucky situation (his estate being accidentally in Britain, on which he is obliged to reside) then the State must seize upon their effects, but to me it seems a very strange and ungrateful return for their warm exertions in our favour, and an extreme inconsistent conduct to destroy our friends and nourish and protect *verus*, our internal and worst of enemies, who do and have done every thing they could to injure us, and openly adhere to the old government, by their refusal to take the oath of allegiance.

ANGLO-AMERICANUS.

Baltimore-Town, March 22, 1789.

For the MARYLAND GAZETTE. NUMBER III.

THE enemy has not been able to "engage allies." This was well known, before it was acknowledged by Lord North, in the house of commons. If the States of Holland are under obligation, by the treaty of Westminster, 1768, to furnish six thousand men, and twenty vessels, to the assistance of Great-Britain, it is in case of an attack by some neighbouring power, and not to carry on a war which she herself has unjustly waged. If Russia, on account of former favours, and commercial advantages, has stipulated to furnish twelve ships, in case of emergency, yet, still, this must have been, *the prerogative of heaven inviolate*, that is, preserving some attention to the justice of the cause in which they are demanded; a regard to which, no treaty, or stipulation, amongst men, can supersede. It was the spirit of every convention of the powers of Europe, to preserve a balance of power, and to secure themselves against the encroachments of each other; but certainly could have no reference to a revolution, in a new world, where no interests, which the former treaties could respect, existed. Nevertheless, we do not know in what light, the war, on the part of Britain, may begin to be considered by the powers of Europe. The enemy may have it in her power to make such representations to the several courts, of her anxiety for peace, of the haughty and ambitious humour of the house of Bourbon, and of the encroaching power of this house, as may revive ancient prejudices, beget suspicions, destroy confidence, and excite a combination against our ally. This, we know, the enemy is greatly active to effect; no stone has been left unturned, no argument neglected, no labour spared, to accomplish this purpose. All Europe has been stirred up by her insidious applications; courtiers, statesmen, princes, have been assailed; money, flattery, promises, ex-

ended. When we consider, that all men have a natural propensity to have a hand in what is going forward, that princes are governed by their favourites, and favourites are assailed by various means, it exists a prodigy in politics, that the enemy, even though waging an unjust war, is yet without allies. It is the highest evidence of sound understanding, and regard to justice, in the powers of Europe, and their confidence in the probity, and just views of the monarchy of France.

But we cannot tell how long these just views of things, and this regard to justice, may remain with the powers of Europe; and it is to be considered, by these States, what may be the consequence, should the enemy be able to excite the powers to act against the house of Bourbon. Pledged under the unequal contest, our ally may find it necessary "to listen" to what the enemy will call "equitable" terms of accommodation. Our fate is linked with that of France and Spain: If these powers are brought to think of peace, even on unequal terms, we must think of peace also. Britain can't hurt the stable empire of the house of Bourbon; but, by the assistance of allies, she may oblige her to desist from helping these States. There is no holding out against superior force; and therefore I admit it is possible, that such may be the fate of war, or such the combination of alliances; that our ally may find herself unable to place us so completely beyond the reach of fortune, in this contest, as she most ardently desires.

I have stated these things, to show the necessity of great exertions on this continent. Our early virtue, distinguished spirit, and unparalleled achievements, procured the French alliance. From that time, like a great Beauty, who has obtained a husband, we have grown careless in our dress, and lusty in our manner. The people are to blame, who are the source of power and council, in a free government. The people have become inattentive to their interests; regardless of the public measures. They suffer themselves to be imposed upon by popular arts, and appoint those to represent them in public councils, who are men neither of the first abilities, nor of a uniform steady attachment to the cause. They have admitted silly and groundless prejudices against those who are the most capable, and have been the most faithful in serving them. Many real whigs are thrown aside, and half-way moderate men are admitted to execute the offices of government. These things ought to be amended. It is high time that the people of this country awake from their lethargy. God and man will desert those who do not help themselves. Why is it that we have not expelled the enemy from every promontory, and corner of our continent? I do not mean to reflect upon our brave army, who are the only body amongst us, who, in my opinion, are purely virtuous. Their brave fellows, thiverting on the hills, fainting on the plains, or wading through a thousand marshes, have borne famine, nakedness, fatigue, and have done all that was in the power of men to do; but the unworthy body of the people have sunk into a slumber, and are fit only to be enslaved by those who shall rise up amongst themselves, or by a foreign enemy.

The idea of a peace, hastily entertained, has been of infinite disservice; imagining ourselves to have attained the summit of our wishes, we have sat down before we had arrived near the end of our course. The people have turned away from public affairs, every man to increase his private fortune. A universal languor has spread over all minds. A remission of this kind is the most usual cause of disappointment in all enterprises. When we read the story of many great commanders, we find them, at first, watchful, and preserving the most exact discipline. After a course of victories, apprehending themselves to be secure, they become less vigilant, suffer the discipline of the army to relax, and are beaten. A remission of this kind is to be dreaded by nations, as well as individuals. It is the usual progress of empire, from vigour, industry, and fortitude, to conquest, renown, and riches; and it is the gradual stage of decline, from security, indolence, and luxury, to invasion, overthrow, and subjugation. In affairs of religion it is the case remarkably, and may illustrate the case in common affairs. The sacred writers, who appear to have understood the human heart well, address many of their exhortations, to this principle. The constant language of Isaiah, is, "to him that overcometh."

I am not one who am lured by any particular circumstances of the times, though I have suffered as much by the depreciation of the cur-

\* This I take from the general complaints of men from the depreciation of the cur-

rency as any one; but considering the state of the occasion, I bear it patiently. The complaint of injuries sustained by the depreciation of the currency, when others, more in their persons and their services, have sacrificed their lives in the debate? It is a just regard to the welfare of my country which prompts my language; and having a better opportunity than many others, to obtain information, I give warning, to my countrymen, of what may come to pass.

AN ANTI-AMERICAN.

For the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

A WRITER, under the signature of an Independent Whig, observes, that "no man in his right senses, will assert," &c. things stated by the Senator. Indeed it seems to be the general opinion, that he is not in his right senses. There are many things which mark an exceedingly perturbed, and insane mind.

1. He conceives himself to be a subject of Great Britain; and what is more extraordinary, a subject of both countries (Britain and America), by which it would appear, that *manus*, his intoxication, multiplies the objects of his mind, and renders things *impossible*.

2. He conceives himself to be a commissioner from Britain, and will have it made a *preliminary*, that her adherents shall retain their property in these States, not considering, that the *giving up our independence* was a *preliminary* of the last commissioners, in which case it might be the interest of Great Britain, that her adherents should possess their property in these States; but supposing the establishment of our independence, it cannot be her interest, that these adherents should retain their property; and no other, but a mad commissioner would make it a *preliminary*.

3. He conceives himself to be a lawyer; acquainted with the law of nature, the law of nations, and the common law; and yet the direct reverse of what the gentleman has stated, of the law of nature, the law of nations, and the common law, is true in every position.

4. It appears from the mode, manner, and substance, of the writings of the gentleman, that he is unsettled in his judgment. There is no order through the whole; without any lessible detriment to his productions, you might read the last first, and the first last. Nay, if you begin with Calvin's case, and read the first number backwards, it will be more intelligible.

There is great reason to conclude, that he must be some crazy man. It is difficult to say why it is that he entertains such relations against the house of delegates, or particular members, railing against these with the fury of a *maniac*. It is more easy to account for his resentment against *speculators*, having taken up the popular clamour, with which his ears have been assailed. Indeed, he may be said to be a speculator (or *phobias*), or dread of speculators. He seems to imagine, that in a magical manner they can swallow whole countries, and do any thing. A poor fellow, in my knowledge, some years ago, who used to walk about with a long pole, and a crooked horn on the end of it, had a like conceit with regard to im-

\* Great-Britain being brought to concede our independence, will easily concede every thing else. She will not have it in her power, nor will she be willing to make the restitution of the property of her adherents a preliminary. If it were possible that a spark of "gratitude" could be found in so corrupt a heart, yet it will be more easy to indemnify the adherents at her own expense than to continue the war a single day, on their account, which might do more, than the value of the property of those adherents. But it will be directly against her interest, that her adherents should possess their property in these States, as it will prevent their migration to other colonies, Canada, Nova-Scotia, &c. The last commissioners made a solemn declaration in this respect, "but it was at the same time a preliminary, that we should relinquish our independence; in other words, it was the interest of Britain, that her adherents should possess their property in these States, if still they would remain subjects, and answer a considerable end in propagating torquism, and preparing the continent for the future designs of Britain, which no man can believe she ever will permit until she be enabled her independence placed beyond her reach."

Any *preliminary* may be taken out, and placed in any part of his performance; it is thus we see of a *maniac*, that antient *phobias* variation is only for all the things he has intended.

The idea of a speculator is like that of *phobias* in the night; it fills the mind of men with *terrors*, without from its obscurity. If men could understand the grounds of commerce, and of the profits of speculation, they would easily perceive, that the fears relative to speculators, in the present case, are *groundless*.