

to accede to the same absolutely, and without any condition or stipulation of a guarantee, by a plurality of the voices of the five provinces of Holland, Utrecht, Friesland, Overysel, and Groningen, against the other two provinces of Guelders and Zealand, who were for insisting on the guarantee of the possessions of the republic as a previous measure. This resolution was announced by express to Russia and the other courts interested in it.

ANNAPOLIS, March 8.

To the PRINTERS of the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THE declaration by the board of associated loyalists, at New-York (known to us by the appellation of American refugees) published in your last paper, merits the attention of every wise citizen, and may be beneficial to the public, if our rulers will profit by the conduct and example of our enemies. The association is for the express purpose of annoying our sea-coasts, and distressing our trade, either in co-operation with the British and Hessian mercenaries, robbers and cut-throats, or in parties by themselves. The declared object is to adopt a system for employing the zeal of those refugees, who, though ardently inclined to bear arms against their country, are such poltroons and cowards, that they prefer a combination to rob and plunder the country which gave them birth, or raised them, emigrants from England or Scotland, from poverty to wealth and independence. The ostensible cause alleged by the refugees, is to suppress the rebellion (as they impudently call the revolution, and our resistance to the wanton oppression of the most abandoned and inexorable tyrant, and most venal and corrupt parliament, that ever disgraced the annals of mankind), but in reality to fit out small cruizers, manned with the outcasts of America and the dregs of Newgate, to rob our bay and rivers, houses and farms, under the commission of their royal master, whom they servilely call *the best of sovereigns*. After holding forth peculiar rewards and privileges, to those who enrol in this honourable society, they offer to each robber a bounty of 200 acres of land in North-America (but whether among the burning sands of Florida, or the frozen shores of Labrador, they are silent) and impotently threaten their vengeance for the execution of some of their worthy associates, as spies, or for robbery, forgery or treason; and like their royal and pious master, they conclude by an appeal to God, "that they are not actuated by any disposition to prolong the horrors of war, or to entertain the miseries of their country; but to afford their aid in emancipating her from republican tyranny, defeating the secret machinations of foreign powers, and restoring her to that happy state, which she once enjoyed under the British constitution." What indignation and contempt must arise in the breast of every virtuous whig, at the effrontery and wickedness of these wretches! History affords innumerable instances of the toady and deplavity of mankind, and all ages and countries have produced rascals, villains, and traitors. A person not well acquainted with the world, must think a native of America, who can, in the present unjust war, bear arms against his country, a monster. I have ever considered the American refugees, as the most vile abandoned wretches, that ever burdened the earth, and have uniformly opposed and condemned the tenity thrown to them. Every day's experience evinces the impolicy of extending even humanity towards them. They were originally, by their arts and lying, one of the principal causes of the war, and they are now one great cause of its continuance. This reflection alone ought to render them the detestation of every American whig; and their brutal and savage conduct towards their brethren, in the course of the war,

ought to make them the objects of the most exemplary punishment. I divide them into two classes, 1. Natives, or others who left this state before the formation of the present government, with intent to remain neuter, and who may with great propriety be called *deserters of their country*; 2. Those who departed since that period, and have adhered to our enemies, or bore arms against us, and who ought to be considered as *traitors*.

Among the noble personages, who have undertaken the execution of the royal commission, to rob and murder the *whigs* of this state (for they promise not to molest the persons or property of the *Whigs*) we find the names of Anthony Stewart and Robert Alexander, Esquires, as two of the directors, for the conduct of this business. The first was from his youth a true Caledonian time server, proud, insolent and ignorant, and one of the most proper tools, in the hands of a tyrant, to execute any the worst and most wicked arts of oppression or cruelty. We can only despise him for his late ingratitude to a country to which he is so much indebted. His mean cringing servility will recommend him to notice, and employment, (and for some purposes he is well qualified) and he may be faithful as long as his interest may require, or until he can gain by betraying the confidence reposed in him. This man comes within the first class, and is to every intent a British subject, and all his property in this state ought immediately to be seized.

The second, Mr. Alexander, formerly a member of congress. This apostate rob has dared to call the present war an unnatural rebellion. This man was one of the first to excite, to rouse the people to resistance. His laboratory, in June 1774, in the town of Boston, was the scene of the first convention to adopt the resolutions of parliament, relative to the Massachusetts bay, or the assumed power of parliament to tax America, should be attempted to be carried into execution, by force, in that or any other colony, that he would support such colony to the utmost of his power; and at the same time he voted to establish a militia, under the authority of the convention, and joined in a recommendation to the other colonies to enter into such, or the like resolutions, for mutual defence and protection. In July convention 1775, he declared it was *necessary and justifiable* to repel force by force, and united, associated, and solemnly engaged, to support the opposition by arms, and he then voted to raise minute companies, and to emit paper money for their support, and was appointed one of the council of safety, to carry the several resolves into execution. In December convention 1775 he was appointed a delegate to congress, and gave his voice to raise a body of regular troops. On the 28th of June 1776, the convention authorized their delegates in congress to concur in declaring the colonies independent states, and to join in the forming a confederacy, and procuring foreign alliances. On the 4th of July 1776, he was re-appointed a delegate to congress, and on the 10th of November afterwards, he was left out of the delegation. No man acted more uniformly decisive than Mr. Alexander, until some time after he went to congress. It is supposed the attention and arts of some cratty Tories in Philadelphia first moderated his conduct, and alarmed his fears; and our defeat on Long-Island, (the 27th of August in the same year) completed his defection from the cause in which he embarked. His pretence was the declaration of independence, but in truth to save his life and fortune, (which he thought in danger) he gave up his integrity, and basely deserted his native country, and thousands of his countrymen whom he had persuaded and

influenced to take up arms, and infamously brand them as rebels, and for those very acts, which his declarations and example led them into, and he now accepts a commission to enrol a chosen band of banditti to steal their property, and cut their throats. I have particularised the actions of this man, to remind my countrymen of his conduct; to awaken, if possible, the feelings of his guilty conscience; and to intimate to his British associates, to consider what confidence they can place in him, once their bitter enemy, and now their pretended friend thro' fear alone; for frequent have been his applications to this state for permission to return to his allegiance. Outlawed for treason, his property ought, without delay, to be seized and applied to the defence of the state, and if the process, as reported, has been irregular, it is the duty of the attorney-general to take proper measures for his conviction.

I hope our assembly, at their next session, will declare those, who have deserted this country, since the war, and before the formation of our government, and who have by any act adhered to Great-Britain, British subjects, and as such confiscate their property. As for those who fled since, and joined the enemy, they are by law *traitors*, and I could wish a law would pass for their trial and execution as soon as they fall into our hands, without paying the least regard to their connections. Diligent enquiry ought to be made after all the refugees from this state. Addison, Boucher, Riddle, and Stevenson, of Prince-George's county, the four Dulanys, Lloy, Walter, and the two Daniels, of Anne Arundel county. It is high time the public had their estates, either as British subjects, or as traitors. I would further propose, that by law it be declared, that if any person, without or with a commission from his Britannic majesty, shall plunder any citizen of this state, of his household furniture, or shall otherwise commit depredations within the state, contrary to the law and practice of civilized nations, such person shall be considered as a *marauder*, and if taken, hanged on the spot.

LEX TALIONIS.

TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

Kent-Island, Feb. 26, 1781. WAS lost or stolen on Kent-Island, on Saturday the 24th instant, a china faced silver WATCH, maker's name, &c. as follows, W. Wilkinson, No. 7960, London. The person suspected of stealing the said watch, passed from Kent-Island to Annapolis on the 25th instant, is an Englishman, about 29 or 28 years of age, about 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, his dress unknown; had a knapsack at his back, and is supposed to be a deserter from the continental army. Whoever will deliver said watch to the printer hereof, shall receive the above reward.

N. B. N. M. (the initial letters of the owner's name) are cut in cypher on the back of said watch. 1 Paid

Annapolis, March 1, 1781. UNITED STATES LOTTERY.

THE fourth class tickets whereof are now in the hands of the subscriber for renewing, such as were disposed of by him in the third class, at any time on or before the 12th day of April next; the possessors are therefore requested to be particular in bringing their tickets, whether blanks or prizes, for that purpose by that time, as none will be renewed thereafter, and the owners will lose the benefit of such as remain unrenewed on that day in this class. 6w

JOHN DAVIDSON.