

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, J U L Y 1 2, 1 7 8 1.

the PRINTERS of the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

WRITER in one of your late papers, who very justly acknowledges himself to be Nobody, has employed the quiver of his malevolence in a flight of sarcasms, aimed at the votaries of fashion, feeble as envenomed, which (could they invade themselves to believe him to be Anybody) would as sure as day "pull an old house about his ears." A writ of banishment would immediately be under the great seal of the beau monde, could it be fixed on somebody, or was it not evident, that Nobody prefers the horrid society of those spiritless females, who can extract amusement from the silly prattle of their noisy offspring, and find a source of contentment within their own bosoms, and be happy without crossing the domestic threshold. The sentiments of this anonymous scribbler "claim kindred" with this servile herd, and mark him out, as one of those misanthropic animals, who, cursed with a constitutional apathy, are at the extatic enjoyments of those, blest with sense and taste. Such was Diogenes of jolly memory, and such, Mr. Printers, are a great majority of your sex. Not satisfied with prescribing the circle of fashion to the metes of domestic life; not content with limiting the flights of female genius to the narrowness of a tom-tit, by rendering it criminal in man to aspire to honours, the lordly creature would deprive them of the only privilege to which they claim an exclusive right, the privilege of being idle, which cannot be enjoyed, unless they are secured in the free exercise of the auxiliaries which in kindreds to the sex affords. Without these aids, the empire of beauty is frail as the flower of the field, and transitory as the dews of the morning; to-day we behold a belle, "in bloom of youth and beauty's pride," and enveloped in clouds of rapture, exhaled from sighs of full many a love-sick man; to-morrow some canker-worm disfigure her out the damask rose, that whilom flush'd her cheek." The loves and graces which wanted her dimpled chin, have spread their rosy pinions, and to Paphos fled; the luitre of those eyes, which needed their conquests far as their rays could reach, is lost, gone, obliterated, and all the sweet charms of beauty is no more; how disconsolate, how "woe-begone" would this fallen beauty be! wretched the state of woman, was there no remedy for these ravages; no charm to reclaim the revolted subjects! Mr. Nobody, and such preying sentimentalists, would prescribe the cultivation of mental accomplishments, as a succedaneum for personal charms; would "grow wanton in the praise" of a sweet disposition, a feeling heart, social and domestic virtues, and the Lord knows what of such unintelligible unsavory jargon; but they will ever be treated as quacks, and their pretensions as nostrums, by all those who have ranked themselves under the silken banners of Fashion; who scorn to draw consolation from such a vulgar source. It is to the magic of dress, address, and the winning arts of the dear, dear sex, that they fly to for a remedy. The wand of Fashion is as potent as Aaron's rod, and has virtues equal to Moses' staff; every defect from nature or accident vanishes at her sacred touch; the native sparkling eye springs into a new birth, in an artificial gleam and a love-inspiring ogle; the faded roses are waked into life and bloom, by rouge, as though she had agreed with Art to give another nature to her cheeks; the deserted dwellings of the faded loves and graces, are tenanted by peace-devising patches; does the shape, "grayer beneath than traitor pine upon the steep head of an old mount," get warped and crooked as the bend of a scythe, concealment is obtained in hoops and cork! to crown the whole, an application of woad, sea-bream, and jauntie clopcaux, is made, and wonderful to relate the belle beholds herself arrayed in all the prime charms, she marches forth for triumph, and the beans become her footstool. Such is the happy sort Fashion gives. How cruel, how completely ill-natured in mankind to destroy the only source of beauty can find! Why are the charms of fashion not permitted to pursue what they think their chief good, without being liable to censure and sarcasm? All they ask of the world is that they may follow the devices of their own hearts, undisturbed by the bickerings of those, who are of a different mode of life, and that mode pursue. For their part they will solemnly pledge their honor never to intrude with unhallowed step into

the sanctum sanctorum of "homefelt peace," nor will they interfere with those of their sex who delight in the domestic virtues. To the Corydons and Phyllidas they resign the shade of solitude and "contemplations heaven-born seat." The glow of friendship and the pure flame of love shall be theirs; the children of Fashion have no idea of "wishing and sighing their souls away;" the sprightly ball, the measured cadence of the nimble foot, the pause by flattery sweetened, form their elysium and constitute their bliss; they never wish to make any use of Cupid's arrows, but "to kill time," nor to employ Hymen's torch, but to light them on the rose-sprinkled road that leads to fashionable joys. To those matrons and maids, whom nature has disqualified from being coquettes, they relinquish all men of Saturnine complexions, philosophic genius, and common sense, provided always, that this dereliction shall not be considered as extending to those smart fellows, who have discernment to distinguish and taste to flatter their merits. In these they claim an estate in tail, for without them half the empire of Fashion would be lost; Dame Nature intended these "splendid nuggets" of creation as fan-bearers and scandal-carriers for the ladies of the ton, nor was ever Irish chairmen more constantly employed; they are quite adepts at this business, being thoroughly acquainted with the affairs of their employers.

I intended to have given Mr. Nobody a good scolding for his impertinent insinuations relative to the government of the tongue and passions, but as I am sensible calling names will have more weight than reason or argument, I shall omit it; Several Ladies in your last paper having epitheted him pretty soundly, and buried him under the titles of scribbler, butterfly, snarling cur, &c. a load which he will not be able to stagger under, unless he is another Atlas. Now, Mr. Printers, being in a hurry to repair to my toilette, and full of making a new conquest this evening, on which I must consult my glais, dear oracle of beauty! I shall leave you to print and Mr. Nobody to write more libels on the grand order of the hoop and cork; an order venerable and distinguished as that of the garter and twistle, and mysterious as masonry, and which, though assailed by every shaft that caunmy e'er forged, shall stand unhurt, and unimpair'd, till Order's self shall be in chaos whelm'd: till the earth's great ball shall be footed by playful school-boys, to while away the vacant hour, till Fashion's wreath shall hide its diminished head before the hero's laurel, and the poet's bays! and till heads and belles shall cease to think themselves the sweetest, handomest, never to be praised enough creatures in the world, and break their glasses and dismiss their friseurs, as useless, idle things.

ARABELLA FASHION:

July 8, 1781.

For the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

IN March last I stated to the public the conduct of Mr. Garland Callis; whose person and papers were seized by the order of the governor and the council, on a suspicion of his being disaffected to the state. After a silence for above three months Mr. Callis has been pleased to publish his justification, "because he has lately discovered that his character was considerably injured, and his silence construed into a conviction." Mr. Callis bids an everlasting adieu to the Bye-Stander, and very probably wishes that their correspondence would cease. In this request he would have been gratified, notwithstanding his charging the Bye-Stander "with impudence, falsehood, and malice," and his insinuation "that he has been guilty of some fraud to the public, and that he is either a speculator, or toad-eater;" if the public were not interested in the political conduct of Mr. Callis. The Bye-Stander is not acquainted with the person, or private character of Mr. Callis, and from the specimen of his polite and literary abilities, he could not esteem himself honoured by his friendship or acquaintance. Mr. Callis is entirely unacquainted with, and misinformed as to the character, or principles of the Bye-Stander. If he could recriminate, he would not thereby exculpate himself; but he may be assured he will fail, if he should attempt it; the Bye-Stander bids him, and all the world defiance, and if Mr. Callis will be pleased first to exculpate his own conduct, and should afterwards be inclined to make any charges against the public character or conduct of the Bye-Stander, he will be fully and satisfactorily answered. General charges are easily

made, and only merit a general negation; any insinuation by Mr. Callis against the character of the Bye-Stander is false, groundless and malicious.

Mr. Callis will not justify or apologise for the conduct of the reverend refugee, Mr. Addison, his father-in-law; this was a prudent resolution; because Mr. Addison's conduct, like his own, can only escape censure, when it passes without observation. The Bye-Stander wishes not to embitter the minds of his countrymen against Mr. Addison, but as he deserted his native country from principles inimical to her freedom, the Bye-Stander cannot consent to his return; and will only intimate to Mr. Callis, that any favour granted Mr. Addison's family must flow from benevolence and generosity, and cannot be extorted by intolence or threats; prudence and policy would forbid him to use either.

Whether Mr. Callis was guilty of impertinence in requesting liberty of our executive to publish his case to the world, depends on the manner of his soliciting the leave; and whether his conduct would excuse his appeal to the public from their decision. Mr. Callis certainly thought himself injured, and meant to arraign the behaviour of the governor and the council towards him; his desire to lay his case before the public implies it. If the conduct of Mr. Callis was exceptionable, and there were probable grounds to suspect him of disaffection to the state, his request was impertinent, and intended as a censure of the opinion of the governor and the council, and an appeal to the judgment of the public.

From facts stated, the Bye-Stander concluded, that the political character of Mr. Callis was suspicious; that he was a tory; an agent for a tory refugee parson; and an instrument of his fraud, to save his property from confiscation. All these inferences are false, says Mr. Callis, they proceed from malice, a weakness of head, or depravity of heart: his political principles were never doubtful, and he has oftentimes, and will again expose his life in the defence of this country. How will Mr. Callis be tried? To the public he has appealed, and he shall have a fair hearing. His assertion alone as to his political principles and patriotism will not be sufficient evidence, but he can offer facts, he has often fought for his country; what pity is it, that he cannot add that he has bled too in his defence. He can mention the times, and places of his warlike-achievements, for often has he encountered the dangers of the field. He has "an aversion to paper wars," but is ready at any time to expose his life in the fields of Mars. With such a champion the friends of American liberty have every thing to hope, and our enemies every thing to fear; Mr. Callis is "no tongue-doubtful giant," yet he talks it well. His heroic actions may be admitted, though he is the first to publish them to the world, yet they are not conclusive evidence of his whiggism. Generals Arnold and Williamson, and some of his refugee friends and connections, evince the contrary. "His political principles were never doubtful." Any tory can say the same. As he is "unhacked in the crooked paths of controversy," the Bye-Stander will not question his candour, and suppose that he selected this mode of expression to convey an opinion, that his character for whiggism was established; though the assertion may be equally true, if he was the greatest tory in the state. Charity disposes the Bye-Stander to hope that it proceeded from the weakness of his intellects, and not a malignity of heart, or an intended deception on the public.

The Bye-Stander was of opinion that any man's political principles may be properly judged of by his actions, and his associates. That Mr. Callis is connected by the ties of marriage, and friendship, with known tories, and persons of disaffected characters, cannot be denied. Let us examine the fact. Mr. Callis married the daughter of parson Addison, a noted refugee and tory; Mr. Overton Carr married Mr. Addison's niece; Mr. Callis's friends are parson Boucher the tory and refugee, and his agent Mr. Overton Carr; and the nonjurors and tories, Benedict Calvert, Ralph Forster, and William Cook, Esquires, and a certain knot of tories in Prince-George's county. His connections are certainly suspicious.

Let us now examine the facts stated by the Bye-Stander, and the answers of Mr. Callis. 1st. That after the house of delegates refused to permit Mr. Addison to return to this state, Mr. Callis went to Elizabeth-town, without leave, and there had an interview with Mr. Addison and his son. 2d. That