

difficult of public characters, and in one instance publicly criminated gentlemen of known integrity, on light surmises, or false information, will not pretend to justify this doctrine. The public trustees should be quick sighted, and cautious; for although obscure reports, artfully calculated to injure the characters of individuals, deserve no notice, yet their duty obliges them not to overlook reports openly circulated, and strengthened by such circumstances, as might gain credit even with the most unsuspecting.

From the foregoing you will readily perceive the reason of my not imparting to you the instructions, I had drawn up, before they were submitted to the committee. I really suspected the reports circulated to your prejudice, were true. Had I omitted to notice, and censure the proceeding, for which you were so publicly reprobated, my silence would have been imputed to partiality, or dread of your resentment; neither I assure you, Sir, shall ever deter me from a faithful discharge of a public duty and trust. Besides, a confidential communication of the instructions probably would have been construed by you into an intentional insult, and you might have suspected that the man (though not named) was rather struck at, than the vice.

As you have thought proper to hint at our former friendship, permit me, Sir, to disclose how it commenced, and how it has ceased.

A similarity of sentiments on public questions first gave rise to our acquaintance, which gradually grew into familiarity and friendship. I am free to own your public character and conduct appeared to me decided and for a long time, disinterested. You had great merit in helping to form our constitution; you opposed popular prejudices, at the hazard, nay, with the loss of your popularity for a time; though your talents peculiarly fitted you to take the lead in a democracy, you had wisdom to despise the precarious ascendancy, which the vices of that form of government would have given you, and courage enough to encounter, and defeat the opposition of those, who wished our constitution to be more democratical.

Your first deviation from the line of true policy (perhaps of rectitude, if you acted from views of interest) was your advising and supporting the resolve of congress recommending to the several States to make the continental bills of credit a legal tender in all cases. But to speak with candour, I ascribed your conduct at the time to an error in judgment, and to an impetuosity of temper, which often prevents you from examining subjects with that patience of thought, so requisite to form a true judgment in all cases of moment. I impute not to you so much sagacity, as to have foreseen the numberless frauds since committed under the tender laws, nor the intention to profit by them. But the temptation was too strong to be resisted in the sequel. When the injustice of suffering the tender law to remain in force, became evident, when the pretext for its passage no longer existed, you still opposed its repeal. Have you not taken unjustifiable advantages of that law? Have you not paid away more monies than you have received under it? But admit, that your receipts have equalled your payments; the former were in consequence of your own concurrence, and advice, the latter made to persons unwilling to receive the sums tendered to them, and opposed to the principles of the law. Will the commission of injustice in some, authorize similar commissions in others, who were deeply instrumental in producing the cause of the injustice committed, especially if they acted from design, and foresight of the consequences? I submit this point to your consideration as a moralist.

You have asserted, that you would not consent to the repeal of the tender law without providing for particular cases. Was not your own one of those cases provided for by the draught of the bill sent to the senate, and was not that clause struck out by the senate? From the subsequent part of the passage alluded to, you seem to approve the principles of the repealing law; yet, in my judgment, they are not to be reconciled with justice. Why then did I give them my sanction by assenting to the law? because I foresaw the repeal could not be obtained on better terms, during war, combated as it was by a variety of contrary and contending interests. To stop the increasing evils of the tender law was gaining a material point; and such an approach towards justice, though very imperfect, might in due time, I thought, pave the way to a more extensive and complete system of equity.

Thus, Sir, you perceive, that although I acquit you of a sinister intention, when you advised the resolve of congress recommending the tender law, yet I cannot carry my charity so far, as to believe you equally blameless in the subsequent part of your conduct, respecting that law. A deviation from rectitude in one instance, gives room to suspect a deviation in another, and makes the imputed breach of trust the more probable. What strengthened my suspicion still more was a report, at the time pretty current, that Mr. Wadsworth

the commissary-general had complained loudly in Annapolis of your proceeding: I heard this circumstance from several, but not expecting to be called upon three years after the transaction, I did not minute down the names of my informers.

Differing thus in our ideas of justice, impressed as I then was, and still am, with a belief, that you had been guilty of a breach of public trust, is it surprising that the good opinion, I once entertained of your public character and principles, changed into a very contrary sentiment?

Thus have I accounted for the commencement, and dissolution of our friendship. I am not conscious of having acted in penning the instructions, from any personal resentment, but merely from a sense of duty in the faithful discharge of a public trust.

[To be concluded in our next.]

TO THE PRINTERS of the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

IT having been publicly reported, since June last, that Mr. Carroll of Carrollton, intended to accuse me of certain matters injurious to my honour and character, as a delegate to congress and member of the house of delegates, and that his charges were to be published in your paper; I request you to insert this next after his publication. The good opinion of the honest and virtuous part of the community, I wish to preserve; the envy and malice of Mr. Carroll, and his party I despise. His friendship I never desire to regain. No one will ever be benefited by it. I broke off my connection with him because he opposed the test act; and became the advocate of the unaffected, Tories, and refugees; because he opposed the confiscation of British property, and intently and tawdryly imputed my maintaining the propriety of the measure to base and interested motives; because he changed his political conduct, and published principles destructive of the freedom and independence of America; because in, and out of congress he betrayed an unmanly fear of our success in the war; because he possesses an inherent hereditary meanness and aversion of soul incapable of friendship to individuals or love to the public; and because of his peevish conduct, and violated friendship to me. Men of honour and candour will suspend their judgment, and form no opinion of my conduct, before they hear, and so suffer my answer, which shall be given in a little time: the censure of enemies is beneath my notice. I know not the charges Mr. Carroll intends to make against me; I understand he has signed his name. For this, the only generous action of his life, he is entitled to my thanks. Conscious of the rectitude of my actions, I pledge myself to the public that every charge is false, misrepresnted, or exaggerated, and that I never was guilty of any act fornic by the municipal, or moral law, or intentionally or consequentially injurious to my country. I only require a fair and candid hearing. I rejoice to have found an accuser, and I will prove him a slanderer and calumniator.

AUG. 10, 1781 SAMUEL CHASE.

CHATHAM, August 1. HIS excellency general Washington has received official accounts from the Northward, intimating of an action that lately happened between col. Willet and col. Butler: the particulars we have learned, are as follow: on receiving private intelligence of Butler's approaching Fort-Rensselaer with 200 Indians and Tories, col. Willet formed an amoucade, by which means he defeated him, and killed and took 90 of his party.

A few days ago a hand bill was published in New-York, announcing the capture of Rhode-Island, with two French 74 gun ships.

PHILADELPHIA, August 8. A gentleman from South-Carolina informs, that a packet was arrived at Charles-town, which left England in June, and by which he learned, that the whole of the fleet from St. Eustatia, with Rodney's plunder, except 5, were taken by the French. By the same gentleman we learn, that the British in Charles-town acknowledged that commodore Johnston, with his squadron, bound to the East-Indies, was intercepted by a French fleet, and was considerably worsted; damage not known.

Since our last, several flags have arrived with women and children from Charles-town. The baseness and cruelty of Mr. Balfour, in proclaiming war against these helpless and unoffending members of the community, and banishing them from their homes, and all means of subsistence, must fix an indelible stain upon the character of that pert young Scotsman, and add to the accumulated guilt and infamy of the British arms!

Aug. 9. We learn that there have been several severe skirmishes, one of them at Monk's-corner, in which the 19th regiment late from Ireland, was handled with such military address, that it is said three fourths of it were either killed or taken: that

on the 15th ult. an American party came down to the quarter house, 6 miles from Charles-town, where they attacked and took several dragoons, and pursued the rest with a number of officers and others, who were on a frolic, to governor Galt, within three miles of the enemy's works; that lord Rawdon lay so very ill at Charles-town that his life was despaired of, and that general Gold had the command.

A flag a few days ago fell in with the Carysfort frigate, on board of which was gen. Leslie, bound from Chesapeake for Charles-town, supposed to take the command there.

Aug. 11. Wednesday afternoon arrived another flag from Charles-town, with a number of families exiled by the British. By her we learn, that the packet, which arrived lately at Charles-town brought information, that the French and British fleets had an action in the channel, and that the latter had received much damage.

We hear that the Junius Brutus privateer, of New-England, fell in with a vessel from Gibraltar to England, with a number of Jews on board, and had taken £. 100,000 specie out of her.

From the New-York gazette of August 9. Since our last we have learned, that gen. Washington has moved the army under his command about 6 miles more to the northward, and in the vicinity of the White Plains.

By the Halifax packet, which arrived here last Saturday in 7 weeks from Falmouth, with the Jun mail, we have the following advices.

PARIS, May 18. They write from Brest, that of the 11th inst. M. de la Mothe Picquet came into that road, with the prizes taken from the English consisting of 21 merchant ships and a corsair, the having sunk one merchant ship and a corsair. The same day the Franklin cutter carried into l'Orient two others of the same fleet, which had been chased by M. de la Mothe Picquet, one of 300 tons and the other of 350.

ANNAPOLIS, August 23.

We have the pleasure to assure the public from the best authority, that the troops under the command of generals Sumpter and Marion, and lieutenant colonel Lee; mentioned in our last as detached against Monk's-corner and Dorchester, have been in a great measure successful. They obliged the enemy to abandon their works at bigger's church and captured all their baggage; took upwards of 140 prisoners, killed an equal number, with the inconsiderable loss of 20 killed and 40 wounded. At bigger's church several waggons and 200 horse fell into our hands, one of the waggons loaded with ammunition. Four vessels, filled with stores, were taken and destroyed; amongst the stores there were 70 pipes of wine. Lee's legion behaved on this occasion with their usual gallantry, and the state horse and militia of South-Carolina, acted with address and bravery, that would have done honour to the veterans of any country. Although engaged with the enemy for near two hours, between the distance of 40 and 80 yards, they stood firm and unmoved. This manœuvre has been attended with some of the desired consequences: it has obliged Rawdon to move down the country with the greater part of his force; the remainder were still at Orangeburg. These advices are as late as July 24.

August 22, 1781.

To be sold at public sale for hard cash or the exchange, at Upper Marlborough, Wednesday the 29th of this month, precisely at 12 o'clock,

A VALUABLE MULATTO MALE about 28 years of age, who has had the small-pox. H. B. G. G.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a petition will be preferred to the next general assembly of this state, for an act to pass, making the repair and keeping the causeway that leads through Pocomoke swamp to Snowhill-town, in Worcester county, a public charge upon the said county general. J. J. B. B. B.

THERE is at the plantation of Thomas near Patapsco lower ferry, in Anne-Arundel county, taken up as a stray, a brown horse about 14 hands high, 4 years old last spring, trots and gallops, has a remarkable large white spot on the right side, two white hind feet, and a blaze in the face, is shod before and not branded. The owner is desired to prove his property, pay charges, and take him away. 100/76 w3

Annopolis, June 18, 1781. THE office in this city for taking subscriptions to the NATIONAL BANK, FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, is now opened at the loan office. THOMAS HARTWOOD, CHARLES WALTON, &c.

[See the supplement.]

[XXXVII] M A

Office for the States, Pursuant to an public auction next, at the county;

BETWEEN acres of val more-town, late party; on which acres, and two chiefly parcelled farms. That parcel, will be first persons, who may to carry on the tunity of securing they may think be sold, the uter leging to the said one hundred val faces; sundry of such as founders, money to be pa chasers; if not, to pay one third September 1782, tember 1783, an of September 178 or the new bills finance of an ad value at the time By order

Office for the States, A To be 5

THE manors of St. Mary's of the present possed conducive to the sales are expired and others are f Bever-dam will be tember next, at L paid down, if ag they may give bo of the sum bid another third on the remaining th in specie, or the purchase of an se value at the time After the sale other manors in in Charles count on the same term By order

THE subscri general asse enable him to es although it was no form prescribed Cravath of Batti 1777, when there der the new gover

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