

MARYLAND GAZETTE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1781.

To the PRINTERS.

THE following dialogue was put into my hands by a learned acquaintance, who said he translated it from a Greek manuscript...

CORRESPONDENT.

SOLOON, LYCURGUS, and ÆSOP.

Solo. Pr'ythee Æsop where hast thou been this many a day? We have had such a dull time of it here since you left us...

Lycurgus. Come unpack, unpack.—In the old way I suppose—upon some drollery I'll warrant you.

Æsop. Faith my old lads I have had a rare time of it, since I saw you.

Lycurgus. Why I have been to a country, where you daren't shew your beards. It is true old Greece made some fuss about you, and perhaps you did tolerably well for the mad-caps of Athens...

Lycurgus. But pray let us know something more of this strange country. Where does it lie? and how did you get to it?

Æsop. Their principles, and institutions! Why man you must not suppose, because you could not hit a peg without six'd principles, that they are in the same hobble.

Lycurgus. What! Are orators so plenty then, that you count them by scores?

Æsop. Ay truly, providence has been very bountiful in that particular too. She has furnished them of all dimensions; as long winded or laconic as you please.

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can calculate to a fraction, how far they are bound to comply with their engagements; for this always, and very justly, depends upon a variety of circumstances, such as the times, place, their convenience, the persons to whom they are bound, and the like.

Lycurgus. I must really confess these are principles, I am totally unacquainted with. But come, give us some account of your journey.

Æsop. Why you must know, that falling in company with Mercury the last time he came down with a message from Jove to these parts, I ask'd him what was stirring in the upper regions?

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