

proceed, and their expectations are flattered. Your house of commons are in time of war to be considered as the mere puffer of a ship, whose helm, course, and operations, are directed by your ministers of state: in every other respect, and point of character, it is unimportant, unemployed, and insignificant.

Public emolument, foreign conquest, and national dignity, present to the eye, objects the most animating that can seize upon the passions of a nation: these absorb all your contemplation; and were your domestic rights secure or invulnerable, you would be pardonable in neglecting them, for objects which are so engaging, and worthy ambition, but which, when put in competition with these, are at most but the tinsel and tolly of greatness. But this is not the case: the dragon which was placed the guardian of the tree of Freedom, defends, and protects his charge, but devours the fruit. The infirmities inherent in all human institutions, denies to yours an exemption from corruption and decay. While your attention is hurried off into distant schemes, while your fervour is augmented by the zeal of the parasites of administration, these domestic liberties, so important, so communicative of every blessing, are seized on, and crumbling into ruin by neglect. You unknowingly are suicides, and perpetrators of the blackest crimes against your posterity.

The evidence of history proves, that the slavery of nations have been impeded or increased, curing the tumults and distractions of war. "Silent leges inter arma." That arm of the executive, so formidable to the equality of the other two branches, has then, a kind of legal superiority; and procuring those advantages in which the passions of the nation are warmly interested, hath a magnificence in its promises and distributions, that dazzle the judgment, while they employ, and strike the senses of the multitude. It is then that tyrants have profited by the folly of their subjects; and cloaked their usurpations under the broad mantle of political necessity and reasons of state.

This branch of your government, you should ever watch, and dread; for this, is inspired by the passions, and moved by the frowns of sanctioned ambition. Its encroachments are less observed, because made by a disguised, temporising, progressive usurpation. By exhibiting its exertions in behalf of the nation openly, and under the title of authority; it affects an honesty of intention. Thus the alarm which a monopoly of power should inspire, is artfully prevented; and the infringements of administration by offering some temporary, immediate bauble of advantage, acquire the sacred appellation of public good, and insensibly steal into the garb, and seat of right, and prerogative. Favours by long usage become confirmed rights.

The invasion of enemies, and the inequality of the military part of the feudal system, to the purposes of wars of any duration, gave Charles the seventh an excuse for the introduction of standing armies. This was meant at first, but as a temporary remedy for feudal defects: he however never relinquished an acquisition so important to the views of princes. This event, though it marks the progress of civility, and better government, yet proves, among many other instances, that a temporary necessity has always given birth to, and apologized for, the most permanent institutions.

The object which takes your attention at present is the American war, but in pursuit of this vapour of delusion, you will be drawn to the brink of a precipice, from whence you will be hurried into irrevocable slavery.

It is not natural, for men whose passions are engaged with keenness, in the pursuit of an object, to suspect the means by which it is to be obtained: they will not foresee any pernicious effects, from the adoption of a conduct whose immediate advantages, render the remoter consequences more faint and scarcely perceptible. But you should ever be open to the informations of truth, even though given by a professed enemy.

You are doubly deceived. You are misled with regard to the practicability of conquering America: and you mistake the ultimate object of your ministry. If your officers find not more advantage, in the profits of their unsuccessful commands, than pleasure, in doing the duties of good men, men of honour, and citizens, they, by long experience in defeat, are fully enabled to convince you of the impracticability of your fancy-led schemes of conquest; and if you are not utterly lost in venality, to the calls of Freedom, a conviction of that truth, will readily point to a detection of ministerial treachery. But this, you do not suspect; and if you preserve your characteristic uniformity of dulness, you will disdain to believe. Indeed, it would be chimerical to suppose, that a people so haughty, who sleep so securely in the infallibility of their government, should in the moment of distribution, suspect of evil design, that part of it, which brings them the splendid acquisitions of riches and na-

tional glory. You should remember that the wisest of politicians, observes—that "slavery is ever preceded by sleep."

Thus at the conclusion of this long war, many forms, the necessary guardians of freedom will be lost, and the suspensions of rights, at first designed to be temporary indulgences on the spur of the occasion, will be but feebly insisted on—and at length added to the brags, which occasioned the innovation, as its necessary appendages. It is the policy of your administration to continue, and the interest of the nation to terminate, this war. The first, by continuing the war abroad, add to their stupendous influence, but the latter, must soon be sensible, that the sword which wounds America, stabs the domestic happiness of Britain. Show you have still the virtue to be moved—and let tears of contrition flow, when you behold the declension of your country, epitomized in the fate, of the captive lord Cornwallis!

A REPUBLICAN.
December 8, 1781.

To the PRINTERS of the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THE welfare, the safety of the state is concerned in the conduct, honour, and probity, of those entrusted to hold the first offices of government; and no matter, in which the public is interested, ought to be concealed. In a debate, in the house of delegates, on the supply bill, a delegate from Kent county observed, "that the state might be assimilated to a private family of prudence and oeconomy, which always enquire into its expences, and the conduct of its servants. That he had observed great abuses, and waste in the management of the public monies, but that the house of delegates had been *basiss*, and neglected to enquire into the conduct of public officers. He intimated great waste in the collection of the last year's assessment, and said he believed it might amount to 100,000 pounds. He observed that, last session, he had informed the house of the misconduct of, and breach of trust by, one in high office, but the house were *basiss*, and from some cause or other, suffered his information to pass unnoticed. He now asserted, that the person alluded to had been guilty of such shameful and infamous conduct, and of such great crimes, that he deserved the most exemplary punishment, and, if true, ought to be immediately banished the state." The warmth, the zeal with which this was delivered, astonished the house, and the bystanders. The gentleman further observed, "that he was ashamed and mortified to discover, that instead of an enquiry and punishment, the person had lately been appointed to the most honourable and important trust in the state." As soon as the gentleman had finished his speech, a member rose, and desired, that he would mention the person to whom he alluded. Upon which several members called to order, and observed, that the matter was foreign to the debate. The delegate from Kent then observed, that he did not mean to interrupt the business before the house; that if he was in order, or required, he would name the person he meant to accuse, but that he did intend to make a formal charge against him, during the session. Upon this declaration the matter now remains.

From the established character of the delegate of Kent county, for his patriotism, honour, and regard to veracity, it cannot be questioned, but that he can produce full and indubitable proofs of the truth of his allegations; and I cannot but remark that our representatives will be guilty of a breach of their delegated trust, if they pass over the information; justice to the public, and justice to the individual, demands a public investigation of the charge. No art, no subterfuge, ought to screen the culprit, and if the laws are incompetent to his crimes, the public ought to rise as one man, and expel him the state.

An AUDITOR.
General Cadwalader.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 20.

A gentleman from Rhode-Island informs, that the brig — captain Denniston; from Jamaica for London, with 200 hogheads of sugar, captured by the Delaware, captain Prole, of this port, after beating off the coast for some time, was obliged to bear away, and has got into Rhode-Island; as is also a large ship from Cadiz, for this port, which was blown off.

A gentleman lately from England reports, for the benefit of those concerned on this side the water, that he saw in Mill-prison, a number of American prisoners, among which were in good health the following persons, most of whom sailed from Philadelphia:

Capt. Kemp, Thomas Ball, Simon Alderson, Sen. Shubert Armitage, John Ashton, Thomas Ellworth, John Brown, William Downs, Simon Alderson,

jun. Mr. Troop, Joseph Singleterg, col: Richardson, of Maryland.

ANNAPOLIS, January 1.

Last Saturday evening THOMAS SPRIGG, Esq. discharged the great debt of nature, at his seat on West-river, in the 67th year of his age. The numerous acquaintance of this amiable gentleman will unite in yielding to his memory the mournful tribute of regret. During the course of a long and prosperous life, his conduct, as a citizen, a husband, a father, and a friend, was, in every respect, entitled to their imitation and applause—and his behaviour during his last painful illness displayed the brightest virtues of the christian and philosopher.

Office for confiscated estates, Annapolis, December 19, 1781.

AT Snow-hill, in Worcester county, on Wednesday the 30th of January next, will be sold for specie, or continental bills of credit emitted in this state to the actual value of specie, several valuable slaves, some stock and farming utensils, late the property of Dr. Henry Stevenson. Also an estate for the joint lives of Dr. Stevenson and Mrs. Stevenson, in the following tracts of land: Blachin-hurst, containing 203 acres; part of Collick-moor, 82 acres; Cade's Contrivance, 23 acres; Edward's Garden-spot, 83 acres; Timber-grove, 99 acres; and an unimproved lot in Snow-hill. One third of the sum bid to be paid on the first day of September, 1782, the remainder in two equal yearly payments thereafter. Purchasers to give bond on interest, with two good securities.

By order, J. BAXTER, clk.

THREE POUNDS SPECIE REWARD.

SUPPOSED to be run away, or taken away, from the subscriber, living near Bellair, in Prince-George's county, on the 11th of November, a negro fellow named James, about 24 years old, 5 feet 5 inches high; had on when he went away an old cap, old great coat cut short and much darned, black coat, yellow waistcoat, furred cloth breeches, the fore part brown the hind part lightish, blue yarn stockings and old shoes. Whoever takes up said fellow, or secures him so that I may get him again, shall receive the above reward, and reasonable charges if brought home, paid by

MARY CLARKE.

To be sold to the highest bidder, on Tuesday the 19th of January 1782, if fair, if not the next fair day, at the subscriber's plantation near Broad-creek, Prince-George's county, Maryland, for tobacco,

TWENTY-FOUR or five likely country born negroes, consisting of men, women, boys, and girls, among them a carpenter, a cook, and three valuable house servants. Also a flourishing stock of horses, black cattle, sheep, and hogs, some of the horses blooded. Also nine years of a lease of 600 acres of very fine land, well improved, lying within three miles of the town of Alexandria. Also sundry plantation utensils, consisting of a new ox-cart with three yoke of oxen, ploughs, axes, hoes, &c. Twelve months credit without interest will be given with bond and approved security. The sale to begin at 11 o'clock.

JOHN ADDISON.

To be sold to the highest bidder, on Tuesday the 19th of January, 1782, at the plantation of col. John Addison, near Broad-creek, Prince-George's county, Maryland, three miles from the town of Alexandria, for tobacco,

THE beautiful thorough bred horse ROEBUCK, he is a fine blood bay, 15 hands an inch and a half high, rising four years old, and was got by Benjamin Dulany, Esquire, Othello who was bred by William Fitzhugh, Esq. of Chatham, and got by Old Fearnought upon a thorough bred Morton's Traveller mare; Roe-buck's dam was got by col. Tasker's Othello, who was got by Crab, his grand-dam by Morton's Traveller, his great grand-dam was col. Tasker's famous Selima who was got by the Godolphin Arabian. Twelve months credit without interest will be given with bond and approved security.

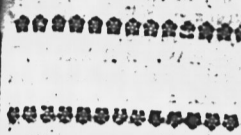
JOHN OVERTON CARE.

December 19, 1781.

THIS is to give notice to all whom it may concern, that the property of James Browne jun. deceased, in the house of Cunninghame, Findlay, and Browne, belongs to the estate of Priscilla Browne, late of Queen-Anne's county, deceased, and that I will support the claim of said estate as soon as I can obtain the proper vouchers.

ROBERT BROWNE, executor of Priscilla Browne.

M A R



To GENERAL CA

YOUR conduct when it passes Your insignifc saved you from the public view; but induced you to assume a public submit to an investigation duct.

This state cannot claim the commencement of the military character, and affect with the patriot. On the effort government in Pennsylvania; and the opposer received you into their society, that your fortune would be party. The mediocrity of your violence of your temper, prudence could govern, our friends; and so great advice, in Philadelphia, against would not permit you public, and you was obliged you intended to deliver. So were entertained of your post your predilection for the office government, and the Tories

general association with their sentiments of moderation towards their connections; and having your insolence and rudeness your native country too warm you hastened to Kent county motives combined to induce a one of the delegates for the rural propensity to fish in troubled waters, and to repeat the tender law; and ad connections with, Tories and your wish to save them and

malices, or confiscation. Those who first elected you, were suspected, in Kent county; hence has continued you in the The limits of this address were account of all your public great outlines shall be truly related form their judgment of a no longer deceived by professional, and affected familiarity language, and coarse and vulgar would pass unnoticed, if the treats you have delivered were with patriotism, and the honor of the state. You loudly claim a father of a patriot, and as a father frequently remind us that you are the defence of America. Your actions and not your professions now determine. I have the awful tribunal of the public your true mirror; and probe though you should wince, or misall recite facts, which you might if admitted controvert the them.

You advised the house of general amnesty, and to invite traitors, Tories, and refugees from their estates; you maintained dictated this conduct; that strength to the state, and unite attention to Great-Britain. You arguments, since the present session. You opposed the confiscation and assigned, among other America might be subjugated, and a few principal characters would you did not chuse to set a nation, and you were apprehensive, for the authors of it were the of the resentment of the Br After the law for the confiscation had passed, you moved the estates of parsons Findlay, and Daniel Dulany, son of William Dulany, son of Daniel Dulany. You warmly and violently acceding to the confederacy

Among those illustrious characters Robert Alexander, the true Addison, the three Dulany, &c. &c. &c.

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