

# MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, F E B R U A R Y 21, 1782.

To GENERAL CADWALADER.

**Y**OUR address to Samuel Chase, Esq; under the presumption of his being the author of *Censor*, cannot exculpate yourself, or affect his reputation: The charges made against you by *Censor* are plain, pointed, and unequivocal; general allegations of your innocence will not be received as orthodox, even by the easy faith of your friends; and a man must be vulnerable beyond example, to be wounded by "mere positive assertions, reproaches, and falsehoods," although enforced by the irresistible rhetoric of Billingsgate, in which you appear to have been schooled from your earliest infancy.

The part of your address, which seems to be explanatory, shall be first considered, and every atom, that can have weight in your favour thrown into the scales: The merits or demerits of the constitution of Pennsylvania, are foreign to the subject, and it is of little consequence, whether the popular prejudice was against you or not; for although you should prove that form of government to be repugnant to the principles of liberty, and destructive to the peoples happiness, it does not follow that your opposition flowed from virtuous motives, or that your views were free from party influence. The history of Great-Britain affords instances of *miseries*, inveighing against men and measures, and warmly advocating the cause of their fellow-citizens, whilst out; but the moment they got the administration into their hands, instead of fighting for their country, they lived for themselves, and the people only changed their oppressors. Should I admit that you had reached the zenith of popular applause, it will not operate on these charges, which strike at your reputation as a patriot and a man of honour, or will it be conclusive testimony, that your conduct towards the distressed did not entitle you to the resentment of ever virtuous whig in the state. You speak of "services rendered your countrymen on former occasions." It is to be lamented, that your *extreme delicacy* prevented your being more explicit, for if by your countrymen you mean the citizens of Maryland, lists are not sufficient to recal to their remembrance, any services you have rendered them on former occasions; your recent opposition to the confiscation of British and refugee property, and endeavours to restore them their beloved friends, the two pious parsons *Boucher* and *Addison*, the illustrious patriot *Robert Alexander*, the virtuous trio of *Dunlavy*, and the honest *Anthony Stewarts*, are benefits for which esteem would be too poor a reward, and to which nothing less than statues erected to your honour, can do ample justice. If Pennsylvanians are meant by your countrymen; 'tis strange, 'tis passing strange that you have removed so far from the *scenic* influence their gratitude must have shed upon your virtues. If you claim citizenship with all America, it is probable the field was the theatre of your services, and certain I am, if you have not been honoured with the laurels; you have done more—you have merited it; "the desert of your military exploits speaks loud, and they deserve rich characters of brass a fortified residence, 'gainst the tooth of time and rasure of oblivion."

"The motives which induced you to offer yourself a candidate for Kent county," are so immaterial, that I will even admit, that *vanity* had no share in your resolutions; that you received the laurels of your friends with *maiden-cyness*, and took your seat in the legislature with as much amiable reluctance, as the disinterested Gloucester mounted the British throne. It is your conduct in a public station, it is your abuse of this delegated trust, that is the great object of public enquiry. Unless you can justify the one and disprove the other, it will avail you but little, to appeal to the purity of your intentions. If a man abuses a public trust through ignorance, a people, who have any regard for their safety, will not again entrust him; but if he injures his country through design, he merits the heaviest punishment.

"The greatest part of those who first elected you, were composed of the disaffected in Kent county; and the same influence has continued you in the delegation." In this assertion you say *Censor* "has hazarded a charge he knew to be false"—the insinuation on which this charge is grounded is not of a nature to be easily discredited, and until you produce something more than "mere assertions" to invalidate it, there are some people who will be ill-natured enough to believe it true. Mankind are generally fond of their own resemblance, and it is

not unnatural or improper to judge of the confidence by the complexion of their representatives. If this rule was to be applied in the present instance, it would be a more general reflection on the integrity and understanding of those who elected you, than *Censor's* declaration implies. He admits that some of your constituents were good men and good whigs, for good men and good whigs may be over-reasbed, and made the instruments of knaves and Tories. You "have left your constituents to answer for themselves," and very politically too, for you will find it a Herculean labour to answer for your own conduct.

"Your indecent language and coarse and vulgar phrases in debate, would pass unnoticed, if the opinions and sentiments you have delivered were not incompatible with patriotism and the safety of the state." Here like a true Jesuit, you have only applied that part of the proposition, which suited your purpose. You have accounted very strangely "for your indecent language and coarse and vulgar phrases in debate." Scurrility though heaped on the blackest criminal retains its native deformity, and is only calculated for the meridian of Grubstreet. The "general bad tendency of Mr. Chase's measures" cannot apologize for Mr. Cadwalader's attacking him with the weapons of an oyster wench. You are as silent as the grave "as to the sentiments you have delivered incompatible with patriotism, and the safety of the state." As despicable an opinion as I have of your understanding, I cannot believe you are so stupid as to imagine, that affecting to treat this and *Censor's* other charges with silent contempt, will be admitted by the public before whom you are arraigned, as testimony of your innocence. I rather suppose you have reserved this discussion for another address. If this is your intention, and you wish to have a favourable hearing "instead of mere positive assertions, reproaches, and falsehoods," adduce at least the shadow of arguments, and the phantoms of facts; shake off the evil habit of soul language, and for once preserve decency of style.

You have adopted a practice, which you a few weeks ago, declared to be common to *culprits*; "to take off the public attention from yourself, you have let loose (upon the man who you suppose to be your accuser) all the scurrility of an envenomed pen and a corrupted heart." You have revived charges which could not be supported by men of abilities, and the most material of which, has been declared *not true*, by the unanimous voice of the house of delegates—I say unanimous, because for obvious reasons the votes of yourself and colleague were nullities. You have coined others which none but a man of unblushing impudence would dare to avow, because no other would hazard the infamy of being detected in a falsehood. Your charge relative to the purchase of distressed soldiers certificates, is grossly misrepresented; it is true, that Mr. Chase acknowledged he had purchased a few certificates from soldiers, and his purchase was fair and equitable, and made at their earnest solicitation; and not from a prospect of "mercantile advantage"—for this he gave money dollar for dollar, which had funds for its redemption equal to those pledged for the certificates. Many were offered him for one half of their nominal value, but he refused to purchase, advising the possessors to keep them, for it was reasonable to suppose the assembly would interpose in their favour; to get rid of their importunities, he frequently gave them money to relieve their immediate wants. This, Sir, is not mere assertion; if necessary, it can be proved by the testimony of several gentlemen of undoubted veracity. I would call on you to blush for your malicious insinuation, did I not know, that to appeal to your sensibility, is "to hew-blocks with a razor."

Your attempt to excite the resentment of the officers and soldiers against Mr. Chase, and to interest their passions in your favour, does you little credit as a politician, but reflects the highest imputation on your candour and veracity. Instead of "fattening on the brave man's labour," the suffering soldiery have experienced from him repeated acts of generosity, and offices of humanity; his house has always been open to the officers of the army, and in him they have had an advocate through the whole course of his public life. I could quote your example to apologize for praising

\* The reader will see the discussion of these charges in Mr. Chase's dispute with Mr. Carroll of Carrollton, published in the Maryland Gazette in September and October last.

myself, but I want no apology for doing justice to the character of a friend, and vindicating the reputation of a good citizen from the unjust aspersions of slanderers and calumniators.

You ask Mr. Chase, if "his motives for opposing the bill for the payment of officers and soldiers certificates were to be imputed to honest intentions?" Whatever insinuation you mean to convey by this question, must fall to the ground, since the fact is, that Mr. Chase did not oppose the bill, nor did he propose any plan which would defeat the intentions of the former legislature, or rob the officers and soldiers of their right. He wished for and endeavoured to obtain an amendment in the act, which was thought just and expedient by a great part of the house, but when it was put to its passage he gave it his affirmative, because he considered a *lame* provision better than none; an expedient which your blind obstinacy has frequently obliged him to adopt. You, Sir, have uniformly imputed his measures to unworthy and interested motives, but was he weak enough to be driven by your censures and abuse from the duty he owes his country, he would be contemptible indeed, and richly deserve all the harsh epithets your ingenious malice can invent. In bringing this affair of the officers certificates before the public, I conceive you had two objects in view. To misrepresent Mr. Chase's conduct on this occasion and to render him odious to the officers and soldiers; and to insinuate the propriety of your own proceedings, and to ingratiate yourself with the army. The first is defeated by the falsity of the charge, and the other must fail of success with those, who give it a moments cool reflection. They will recollect that you gave this measure your concurrence, at a time when defeat "sat heavy on your soul," and as it was natural for a *drowning* politician, you caught at this straw to prevent your sinking under the public odium; the officers and soldiers will set some bounds to their gratitude, should they reverse to your opposition to the confiscation of the refugee and British property, for had you succeeded in that, the state could have found no funds to ensure the payment of their certificates; nor devised any mode to have paid their depreciation. You have been so long accustomed to blunder, that you would have violated your second nature, had you not stumbled on this subject.

You have *piously* declared, "you would not profane the tombs of the dead to raise up altars to the living," and the reason is obvious; panegyric does not suit the disposition of your soul. But you feel no remorse for disturbing the ashes of a poet to gratify your revenge; and I believe for the sake of human nature I hope I am mistaken) I believe you would not hesitate to unpeople the republic of the grave, to accomplish a favourite plan or to destroy the man you hate.

## PHILO-CENSOR.

RICHMOND, February 9.

OUR latest and best accounts from the southward, contradict the arrival of a reinforcement at Charles-town. A provision fleet had arrived, but brought few or no men. Gen. Greene still maintained his position at Round O, while his light parties often insulted the enemy, almost at the gates of Charles-town.

It is said that Lord Dunmore, feeling no prospect of being soon re-established in his government, has returned to Europe, and taken with him Col. Balfour, the late commandant at Charles-town, who has never been perfectly at ease since the execution of Col. Haynes, and seems unwilling to trust himself to the risk of retaliation.

A report prevails, that St. Kitts is taken by Count de Grasse—This intelligence comes from the southward, and as all our accounts agree that the French fleet had lately put to sea from Martinico, we hope there is some foundation for the report: It is said that the general opinion in the West-Indies when the fleet sailed, was, that Antigua was their object; the loss of either of these islands, however, will be severely felt by the British.

PHILADELPHIA, February 15.

A correspondent observes, that from the artifices of the enemy in New-York, designing without doubt to hull us into security and relaxation, rumours of a speech of his majesty of Britain to his parliament in November last, which represents him as quite pally struck with the surrender of Yorktown, Virginia, are industriously circulated among us, but that he must be an idiot, or quite unread