

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1782.

To JOHN CALVERT, Esquire.

IF you wish to learn your real interest in the experience, you would expect to see motives, which led you into public and consider the day on which you embarked in the hazardous undertaking, as most unfortunate since your birth. Possessed of strong passions, which never knew the restraint of reason; endowed by nature with a genius too rough to receive the polish of education, without benefit of instruction to apologize for your blunders, or address to veil your ignorance, it would have been a miracle had you succeeded, and an imputation on the understandings of your countrymen, if you had gained their approbation, much less applause.

When you first appeared on the stage, you personated the hero: whether you supported the dignity of the character, or disgraced the militia buckins, I will not venture to determine: it is however more than probable you acted your part *clumsily*, since none of your achievements have been so brilliant or important, as to furnish a paragraph for a news-paper, nor do I believe, that your past or future exploits will ever be celebrated by the poets, orators, or historians of America; perhaps it will be more to your honour, should your name and actions escape the recording pen. That you have personal courage I am inclined to admit, because I know you have a large portion of pride as generally falls to the lot of one man; but this qualification, though essential, unless you are possessed of others, cannot give you the shadow of a claim to the distinguished appellation of a soldier.

Unqualified as you are to *shine* in the field, your abilities are still farther below the level of the cabinet. In your portrait we may perhaps discover one trait of the military character, but it affords to the statesman as striking a contrast as the native blush of ingenuous modesty compared with the harlequin's painted cheek. Integrity is the brightest ornament of every station in life, but so essential to the senator's, that to entrust a man who does not possess this amiable virtue with the administration of the public affairs, and to appoint him a guardian of the public liberty and happiness, is the extreme of rashness; but he must unite with honesty an enlightened understanding to fill his seat with dignity, and to make his usefulness extensive. When a man of a depraved heart, and only cunning sufficient to qualify him for a knave, crawls in the walk of private life, he disturbs domestic peace and poisons domestic felicity, but when his ambition aspires and his low arts lift him to a public station, he becomes a public nuisance or a public curse. When your conduct relative to the confiscation of British and refugee property; when the animated patronage you have given to those men, who barely deserted their posts in the hour of danger, and impiously warred against the liberty and happiness of a country, to which they owed their support and existence, and which you are bound to protect by the sacred ties of indispensable duty; when the violation of your honour publicly pledged and low cunning displayed in prosecuting your favourite schemes; when all these detriments are crowded into one piece, I believe I shall not be thought uncharitable in declaring, that instead of being placed in the senate house with the fathers of our country, it ought to be carried at the public expence from election to election as a *negative* instruction to the people in the choice of their representatives.

The same motives which induced you to advocate with such intemperate zeal the cause of the Tories, and our refugee and British enemies, gave birth to your hatred to the member from the city of Annapolis. Entertaining a just abhorrence for those reptiles, and actuated by a sense of duty to his country, he always strenuously opposed your ruinous propositions, which tended to shield their property from confiscation and themselves from punishment. Dull as you are upon most occasions, you had sufficient discernment to discover, that whilst he enjoyed the confidence of his countrymen your efforts to serve your *virtuous* friends would be ineffectual, and consequently his ruin became the first object of your attention. He stood between you and the completion of your favourite plans, and you were reduced to the necessity of either resigning all hopes of success, or effecting his destruction. You *pitifully* resolved to spare no pains to rob him of his good name, nor did the resolution cost you a single pang. You commenced this *base* business by disseminating private slanders, and dispersing abusive manu-

scripts under the signatures of *A. B.* and *A. Planter*. In the first instance you had the assistance of all the knaves in the state; in the second, you laid the inimitable *Holingbroke* under contribution, and so tortured the sublimest sentiments, that you made them minister to the most envenomed malice. A reader must have been ignorant indeed, who could not detect so glaring a plagiarism, for "when a poor thief appears in rich garments it is easy to discover they are none of his own." Had not your passions triumphed over your cunning, you would not have forsaken the dirty and crooked paths of private calumny, and rashly ventured your detested views in the face of day. The mode you were pursuing might in time have effected your purpose, for there is no character however virtuous and dignified, but may fall a sacrifice to the masked and unremitted attacks of slanderous tales; "gutta cavat lapidem, non vi, sed sepe cadendo."

At the first blush, a person unacquainted with all the circumstances of the case, might impute this conduct to the sudden impulse of generosity, but a knowledge of the man convinces me, that he never felt the influence of so worthy a sentiment. You were averse to this mode of attack, because truth was not your object. The unhallowed rites of falsehood and the horrid incantations of private slander were best adapted for the sacrifice of an innocent victim. It was the strictures of Auditor and Centor which forced you into this trial, and in submitting your accusations to a full and impartial discussion, you were an unwilling instrument in putting the reputation of your enemy above the reach of calumny, and heaping infamy and disgrace on yourself. It is to be wished for the honour of human nature, that you had evinced some small regard for the public in conducting this prosecution; if professions are to be admitted as testimony you have proved to demonstration that love of country was the primum mobile of your actions; but it is a little unfortunate for you, that the whole tenor of your conduct gave the direct lie to your assertions, and that every person who attended the trial pronounced your prosecution the offspring of malice and resentment. Come forward, thou *virtuous* champion of thy country, and answer these queries to the public. Why did your cheek turn pale with anger, and your lips quiver with resentment, and why was your tongue wanton in personal invectives during this business? Why did you *industriously* sift out from the evidence every circumstance which led even to the implication of guilt, and pass over in silence or suppress those which tended to exculpate? Did you not declare, that if the member from the city had not been appointed to congress you never should have instituted the enquiry into his past conduct? Whilst a member of the house of delegates he had equal power as if in congress, to inquire that country, whose virtuous advocate you pretend to be; why then, if the public good was your object, did you confine your views merely to prevent his taking a seat in congress? How, Sir, can you reconcile this to your *immaculate* patriotism? Why did you waste the midnight lamp in vamping up vague and unjust accusations, extracted from news-papers, and like another *Lucius Apuleius* put your invention to the rack to crush another *Camillus*? We read your answer in your cheek, pale with conscious guilt. You know, Sir, you was an accuser, a *base*, *base*, and *malicious* accuser; and the reflection that you *wantonly* laboured to ruin a fellow creature will plant thorns under your pillow, if you have virtue enough to feel compunction. You will not only have the punishment of your conscience to struggle with; the detestation of the virtuous part of the community will attend you through life, and all the rotes torture can scatter in your passage will not make "your paths the paths of peace."

You affect in vain to treat with indifference the event of the trial; a vote of innocence, by the unanimous suffrages of the immediate representatives of a free people, will weigh down all the calumnies, falsehoods, and slanders, ingenious cunning can forge, or malice scatter. I view your colleague in as criminal a light as yourself, and your coadjutor through the whole of this malicious transaction, but his *insignificance* attracts no punishment but *contempt*.

I have not addressed you as a general, because although you purchased the title by a few months service, I think you have forfeited it by years of inglorious ease; if you are so *smitten* with the charms of military glory as to be enamoured of its shadow, I will not administer the *scourge*; nor shall I apolo-

gize to you for any part of this address; I have nothing to fear from your repentment, and you have no claim to common respect. Every informed and impartial reader will think you have been treated with too much lenity, and that no expressions can be too strong to convey a just abhorrence of your conduct, nor any colours too deep to do justice to the deformity of your character.

A. W. H. G.
Baltimore-town, February 14, 1782.

MR. PRINTER.
BY accident, I the other day saw Mr. Home's criticisms in your paper of the 31st of January, on the writings of the Republican. Such squibs are always short lived: they never survive the hour, which, by thrusting them under the nose of the public, bestows on them a momentary unnatural importance. I will not by further remarks give it a second existence. It is now more than a month since it expired—I will not disturb the ashes of the dead—Let it repose in oblivion.

A REPUBLICAN.
March 1, 1782.

PHILADELPHIA, February 10.
Extra of a letter from St. Thomas's, dated January 19, 1782.

AS soon as Mons. de Grasse returned from America he related an attempt on St. Kitts. On the 10th inst. he appeared off that island, and on the 11th he landed his troops at Basseterre without opposition, and took immediate possession of all the island, except the strong fortresses of Brimstone Hill. All the shipping in the road fell a sacrifice, except a few which escaped and came down here. The French have made intrenchments very nigh the hill; and it is said they have thrown some shells into the fortifications. If that is the case it must soon fall, as admiral Hood is not strong enough to give the besieged any assistance.

St. Thomas, January 23, 1782.
"The siege of St. Kitts is now going on. Last Friday four bomb batteries were completed for twenty mortars each, and one shell was seen to fall over the hill. A few weeks I expect will reduce it, though admiral Hood has sent word he will go to its relief."

Extra of a letter from Cadix, dated Jan. 3, 1782.
"The late success of the combined arms in Virginia, has afforded a general satisfaction to the people of this kingdom, who seem heartily disposed to be our friends. The grand fleet put to sea a few days past, consisting of 44 sail of the line and a number of transports with troops on board: their destination is not known, but supposed to be for the Havana. The Courier de la Europe, containing the king's speech, and debates of parliament, is here, and after lamenting their late bad success in Virginia, strongly recommending a prosecution of the war, which motion was carried by a large majority, and the supplies voted for the ensuing campaign. It therefore does not appear that we shall have a peace this year. It is reported that an embarkation of 6000 Hanoverian troops is to take place for America, to be there at the opening of the ensuing campaign."

"The siege of fort St. Philip continues to be carried on with great vigour. By the latest accounts from that place we have good grounds to believe, that the garrison will not hold out many weeks longer."

Extra of another letter from Cadix, dated Jan. 7.
"We just hear that count de Guichen, who sailed from Brett on the 11th ult. with 19 sail of the line, has had an engagement with the British admiral Kempensfeldt. The issue is not as yet known, but if it is true, as is said, that the English had no more than 13 ships, we make no doubt but the advantage has been on the side of our allies."

We have great reason to believe that an action has lately happened in the West Indies between the French and British fleets. A schooner from St. Thomas's, which she left on the 30th of January, brings an account, that a small vessel arrived there on that day from St. Christopher's, the people of which report, that the two fleets were seen engaged, but the event was not known. What seems to confirm this news, is the probability of the British fleet attempting the relief of St. Christopher's, the principal fortresses of which was at that

Virginia, December 11, 1781.
for specie or tobacco,
high bred horse TAMER,
a fine bay full 25 hands 3
years old, his blood is unex-
pected may be seen by any gen-
tle purchase: Reasonable time
given, if required.

W. BRENT,
brother to Mr. Conway's
Black and all Black, and
ella that ran at Baltimore in
is not inferior to either in

January 23, 1782.
notice, that I shall apply to
assembly for an act to have
Sarah Galloway, and Tho-
mas and executor of capt.
died, to William Chapman,
died Taylor's Triangle, lying
WILLIAM CHAPMAN.

county, January 16, 1782.
plantation near the Woodyard,
beginning of November last, the
a black and white cow, has
is marked with a swallow-
tail crop and under bit on her
about 5 years old, and has
red and white ditto, has
down her nose from her
th ears, judged to be about
cow with calf. A red ditto,
lately calved, has a white
in form of a heart, a fork,
the right, and a slit and un-
A red ditto, with a white
no perceivable marks, has
black and white spotted heifer,
a crop and hole on the right
side of the left. A dark brin-
a bald face, is about 5 or 6
on both ears. The owners
property, pay charges, and
W
ICT CALVERT.

FOR SALE.
ED, 644 acres, surveyed
and certificate returned for
and passed, by the name of
patented, because of the
United Friendship, 359 acres
1500 acres: The Scheme,
lots lie adjoining each other.
1136 acres; this tract lies
above lands. All the tracts
a considerable part of them
tract is very well watered,
is about 200 acres of good
is little timber on the
in the main western fork of
are, falls of Patapsco river,
procured to build tobacco
near the great main road
to Baltimore, and between
the latter, and in the neigh-
of Samuel Manfell. *Refuge*
res, of which about one half
this land lies below *Bash-*
Frederick-town, near one
all about 4,147 acres. A
taken for the *white*; if the
the price will be more or
quality and situation. The
is indisputable. Bond with
or specie, with interest; or
emission, at par with specie;
rent, and the lands immedi-
re of the printers. 2-2

county, Jan. 8, 1782.
for SALE.
manor, containing upwards
one other part of the afore-
present undivided, supposed
res, adjoining the aforesaid
g on Nanjemoy creek in
oil well adapted for planting
to be on the premises on
ay of February next. Any
purchase may view the pre-
ms, by applying to me,
W
BERT DOYNE.

SOLD,
ABLE, with balls, tacks,
conveniences belonging to it.
abam, near the dock, An-