

der articles of capitulation of York-town, is now confined in America, an object of retaliation. Shall an innocent suffer for the guilty? Represent to yourself, Sir, the situation of a family under these circumstances, surrounded as I am by objects of distress; distracted with fear and grief; no words can express my feeling or paint the scene. My husband given over by his physicians, a few hours before the news arrived, and not in a state to be informed of the misfortune; my daughter seized with a fever and delirium, raving about her brother, and without one interval of reason, I've to hear heart-alleviating circumstances. Let your feelings, Sir, suggest and plead for my inexpressible misery. A word from you, like a voice from Heaven, will save us from distraction and wretchedness. I am well informed general Washington reveres your character; I try but to hum you with my son to be released, and he will restore him to his distracted family, and render him to happiness. My son's virtue and bravery will justify the deed. His honour, Sir, carried him to America. He was born to affluence, independence, and the happiest prospects. Let me again supplicate your goodness; let me respectfully implore your high influence, in behalf of innocence, in the cause of justice, of humanity; that you would, Sir, dispatch a letter to general Washington, from France, and favour me with a copy of it, to be sent from hence. I am sensible of the liberty I take in making this request; but I am sensible that whether you comply with it or not, you will pity the distress that suggests it; your humanity will drop a tear on the fault and efface it. I will pray that Heaven may grant you may never want the comfort it is in your power to bestow on

AS GILL.

PHILADELPHIA, December 24.

We can, from good authority, inform our readers that a commission has passed the great seal of Great-Britain, authorizing Mr. Richard Oswald of the city of London, to treat with the United States of America, or their commissioners, in the general negotiation for a peace at Paris. A copy of this commission was yesterday morning read in congress.

When the Danzig frigate left France, a report prevailed that the British settlement of Madras, in the East-Indies, had been taken by Hyder Ally's troops, assisted by the French forces in that quarter.

By several late arrivals from the West-Indies, we have great reason to suppose that the count d'Estaing will shortly make his appearance in that quarter, at the head of a very respectable naval force.

Extract of a letter from Rochfort, dated October 24.

"We have not lately had any very satisfactory news from Gibraltar, the English having kept up a firing with red hot bullets against the floating batteries; but we are in expectation of hearing better news, the English fleet having been dispersed; 38 of their vessels are in the Channel, put up by 46 of the combined fleet, and by a good manoeuvre they may destroy or take them, they having no port to retire to for refuge."

Extract of a letter from London, dated August 31, 1782.

"I flattered myself for some months past, that by this day an happy and lasting peace would have been effected between this country and America, as I well know our present ministry have every wish, and show every disposition for that desirable purpose."

"The independency of America is absolutely agreed on in council; I (as one of a committee of merchants trading to America) was told to by lord Sheburne himself a few days ago."

"The ports of Calais and Dover are open, and messengers passing daily, on the purport of a general congress meeting for terminating the war, of which all the powers in Europe seem to be heartily tired."

Dec. 26 We are told Mr. Oswald's commission is dated the 21st of September; that when the frigate Danzig left France the negotiations of peace seemed in a good train; one of the grand obstacles being got over, by the British court giving their commissioners power to meet and treat with a commissioner or commissioners from the THIRTEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

ANNAPOLIS, January 3.

From the Paris gazette of October 10.

"It is still firmly believed that peace is now nearer than ever, notwithstanding all the preparations to the contrary; the necessity of putting an end to the public calamities is not, it is said, less felt in France and Spain than in England."

RECEIPT of continental taxes from the state of Maryland, published in pursuance of the 6th article of instructions from the office of finance, dated the 22th day of February last.

	Dollars.	cents.
December 19,	Received 9,724	78
31,	959	70

10,684 48

BENJAMIN HARWOOD,
Receiver of continental taxes for Maryland.

SHADDS, December 25, 1782.

To UTOPIUS in UTOPIA.

YOUR last was duly received. We have ethereal messengers, who often pass and repass to your country, as well as to all parts of your globe. They often bring us an account of what is doing among you mortals, which is an indulgence granted to those heroes and statesmen who acted from a good conscience, and still have an inclination to be informed of what is doing on earth. Our informant brought us a good deal of intelligence from your state, which I shall recount in substance, after noticing the most material parts of your letter. That such of the human race, who happen to be blessed with abundance of the good things of the world, should think themselves superior to others who are not so, is no new thing; it has ever been the case since mankind first formed themselves into societies. To be rich, is to be in the road to power; to be in power, commands respect; and from thence the greatest

tyrannies have proceeded. Republican governments have always endeavoured to guard against too much power being in the hands of any one man or set of men, and to this alone they owe their existence. That old women in breeches are to be found in all countries, is most certain. Yours, perhaps, may be the most extraordinary instance of the kind. But to our messenger's intelligence. Your army has not been paid any thing for upwards of two years; they have hitherto continued in service. Can it be expected they will continue in your service on the same terms? The answer is plain. You have good men among you of amiable characters in private life, but they are detestable politicians. To be ruined by good men, because they know not what they are about, is as bad, if not worse, than being ruined by the common enemy. Too many of your delegates court popularity on false principles; some by voting against taxes altogether, others by refusing your tax bills from the mode of payment and collection. The meanest men among you know, that war cannot be carried on without a heavy expence. They also know, that this expence cannot be paid without taxation. Your mode has always been to raise taxes in kind, but seldom hath amounted to one half in substance. By this method, in the course of six years, you are upwards of three years in arrears. This accounts for your army's getting nothing except victuals, and now and then a few croats, tho' many of your soldiers have been several times quite naked. Are you determined to blunder on at this rate to your utter ruin? I hope not. Permit me to give you a few words of advice. First, out those delegates who neglect to attend their duty, or are the cause of any unnecessary expence. Put men into their places who will not idle away a single moment, but attend punctually during a whole session. Let your taxes in future be laid in such a manner as to yield substantial revenue. Let them not be higher than you can pay; and when collected, let equal distribution be made to all public creditors, in proportion to their claims, giving your army, for they certainly deserve it, the preference. This mode of proceeding, if strictly followed, would quiet the minds of all good men; and as the times bear very hard upon nine tenths of your people, those who are public creditors, at least a majority of them, would be content with any proportion of their claims that you are able to give them under an impartial distribution. Thus by slow degrees you might recover your past blunders. To proceed in the manner you have done heretofore, must end in your utter ruin; when heaven avert. With sincerest wishes for the prosperity of your commonwealth, I remain yours, &c.

EDMOND LUDLOW.

Baltimore-town, December 26, 1782.
To be SOLD at PUBLIC VENDUE, at Allen's coffee house in Baltimore town, at 12 o'clock, on the 8th day of January,

A LARGE and commodious lot of ground where the subscriber now lives, whereon is a large and convenient brick dwelling house, two stories high, four rooms on a floor, and a passage through the whole, a very convenient large kitchen two it rises high, ware-house, smoke-house, dairy, and other necessary buildings, all of brick; and a good garden; the lot is about 130 feet front in Front street, and about 200 feet back in short-street to the water. One fourth of the money to be in hand, another fourth in nine months, and the remainder in four years with interest, on giving bond with security.

ROBERT MORRIS.

Annapolis, January 1, 1783.
To be SOLD, at the coffee-house in Annapolis, on Saturday the 25th of this instant, for the purpose of paying the debts of Mr. Etie Valette, deceased,

SEVERAL NEGROES, consisting of negro women, a lad, and children.

By accounts left by the deceased, there appears to be in the hands of several gentlemen, both of the eastern and western shore, a number of the Deputy Commissaries Guide, unaccounted for; we beg those gentlemen will be so obliging as to render an account as soon as convenient, and where the books are not sold they may be returned, when an opportunity offers to do it without incurring an expence.

ELIZ. VALLETTE, executrix,
WILL. BROGDEN, } executors,
THO. HARWOOD, }

January 1, 1783.

To be SOLD, or LEASED on reasonable terms, A VALUABLE PLANTATION, near the head of Stoney-creek, whereon there is an exceeding good and new dwelling house, and many other convenient and necessary out houses, in good order, near the dwelling, which stands on the main road between Severn-ferry and Baltimore; would well suit a private gentleman's family, or any inclinable to go into a public way of business, and is situated within half a mile of two merchant-mills. The soil is good, well timbered, and there is excellent water very near the dwelling. For further particulars enquire of the subscriber in Annapolis.

NICHOLAS MACCUBBIN, son of Joseph.

N. B. The plantation contains 500 acres, and is situated very conveniently near the water.

Annapolis, January 1, 1783.

To be SOLD by the subscriber, A LIKELY NEGRO GIRL, about sixteen A years old. She can milk, wash, and spin, is good humoured, perfectly honest, remarkably healthy, and has had the small-pox.

JOHN RIDOUT.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a number of the inhabitants of Cecil and Kent counties intend to prefer a petition to the general assembly at their next session, to pass a law for erecting a new county out of part of Kent and Cecil counties, and calling the same Smallwood county.

December 1, 1782.
ALL persons indebted to the estate of colonel Alexander Howard Magruder, late of Prince Georges county, deceased, for either former or late dealings with him at his store or otherwise, are requested immediately to settle the same. Those indebted on bond or other obligation, who cannot make payment, must renew them and pay the interest due thereon; and those indebted on open account, it is expected will either make payment, or give their bonds for the same, without delay. For the convenience of all concerned, attendance will be given at the deceased's late store-house by Mr. Henry Truman Compton, who will have the books and papers in his care, and has sufficient authority from us to settle and collect the balances due thereon. All persons also who have just claims against the said estate, are desired to bring them in properly authenticated, that they may be adjusted by

JANE MAGRUDER, administratrix,
WILLIAM MAGRUDER, administrator.

Office of Finance, November 8, 1782.
NOTICE is hereby given, to all whom it may concern, that counterfeiters have appeared of the notes issued from this office, struck on copper-plate, in the following form: "At sight pay to the bearer twenty dollars, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant," which notes are signed by me, and directed to Mr. John Swanwick, Philadelphia. There were some notes of the same kind for fifty and some for eighty dollars, which may perhaps be counterfeited, though none have been yet discovered. The counterfeiters are badly executed, and might with care be detected; but, from an apprehension that such arts would be practised, I long since desisted from issuing them, and cancelled those which were brought in for payment. There are now out only sixteen thousand six hundred and seventy dollars, and as no great inconvenience can arise from putting a stop to the circulation of so trivial a sum, the public are cautioned against receiving any notes struck on copper plate, and signed with my name. All persons holding those which are genuine, are desired to send them to Mr. Swanwick, and receive the money.

ROBERT MORRIS.

WANTED, for an overseer, a single man of a sober and honest character, who will be allowed great encouragement, by applying to the subscriber, near Annapolis.

WILLIAM THOMAS.

To be sold, two or three negro girls, about 14 or 15 years of age, healthy and fit for work.

December 23, 1782.

THIS is to give notice, that a certain John B. Howard did, on the 7th of November, 1782, give a bond unto us the subscribers, to convey, by a lawful deed of conveyance, in trust, on or before the 20th day of December, 1782, all the lands devised to him by his father, Henry Howard, viz. Pleasant Ridge, Windford, Sate-guard, and all the lands he had of Levin Lawrence, as also all the said John B. Howard's personal estate, excepting a mare and colt, free and clear from all incumbrances by debts or otherwise; he having made a reserve of 490 acres of land, purchased by him of colonel John Dingley, for the specific purpose of paying his debts, after which the remainder to go to the said John B. Howard's own private use, as a competency; the other part of his estate to be conveyed in trust, to be for the use and benefit of his wife and children, as is mentioned in the bond: A separation between him and his wife having taken place, on the 21st instant, December, 1782, a demand was made by us to have a deed executed agreeable to the tenor of the bond, which the said John B. Howard refused executing; if the said John B. Howard shall fail to any person or persons the 490 acres of land reserved, the debts due from him are first to be paid, as no part of the estate to be conveyed in trust is to be liable, and agreeable to the tenor of the bond he cannot sell any part of the personal estate.

STEPHEN BOONE,
JOHN DORSEY.

To be SOLD, at Newington Rope-walk, near Annapolis, on Tuesday the 18th of February,

A NUMBER of valuable NEGROES, consisting of plantation men and women, two house wenches, a woman cook, and a number of small boys and girls; to be sold for ready money, or short credit upon bond with good security, by

MARY McCULLOCH,
CHARLES STEUART,
JAMES McCULLOCH.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of James Dick, deceased, for either former or late dealings with him, at his store at Annapolis, London-town, or otherwise, are requested immediately to settle the same; those indebted on bond or other obligation, who cannot make payment, must renew them, and pay the interest due thereon; and those indebted on open account, it is expected will either make payment or give their bonds for the same without delay. For the convenience of all concerned, attendance will be given at Annapolis every Friday, and at London-town every other day in the week. All persons having just claims against the said estate, are desired to bring them in properly authenticated, that they may be adjusted by

MARY McCULLOCH, executrix,
CHARLES STEUART, } executors,
JAMES McCULLOCH, }

On Monday the tenth day of February next, will be sold at public sale, at Queen-Anne, in Prince-Georges county,

THE noted high bred running horse CHATHAM, the property of the late John LeStrange Brogden. HUMPHRY BELT, THOMAS WATKINS, } executors,
WILLIAM BROGDEN, legatee.