

# MARYLAND GAZETTE

## THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1783.

LONDON, May 3.

ADVICES from Petersburg mention that the empress had already put in execution that part of her intention relative to the Jesuits, concerning which she had written to his holiness, though the pontiff had not returned any direct answer to her imperial majesty's request. These letters add, that fresh forces were in readiness to march towards the Crimea, to strengthen the Russian garrison there, whose presence and prevalence alone secure tranquillity in that territory.

A plan of a charter proper to be granted to the natives of Geneva settling in Ireland, has been transmitted to government, and is now under the consideration of his majesty's ministers.

The cordial protection afforded the Genevans, does infinite credit to the Irish nation.

The duke of Leinster has acquired great popularity in Ireland by the generous donation he offered the veterans; not only the grant of land, but the manner of granting it was princely.

Lord Albborough offered the Genevan emigrants a very large tract of land, and his lordship was at the expense of having the plan of a city engraved, on the scale of which it was proposed to build New-Geneva.

May 6. A letter from Madrid, by the way of Lisbon, says, that two American gentlemen are arrived there, in order to settle with the court of Spain a treaty of commerce and amity, their independency being acknowledged; but when the letter came away they had not been admitted into the presence of the king, as the grandees were deliberating in what manner they should be received.

The most authentic advices from Paris, state the marine plan of France to be this; always to have 18 ships of the line in commission; six to be stationed at Brest, six at Rochfort, and six at Toulon. These ships to be annually relieved by an equal number; those recalled to be kept in commission, and the seamen to be regulated; by which measure there will be a fleet of 36 sail of the line besides frigates, ready to put to sea at one month or six weeks notice.

A camp of 30,000 men is forming in France. The plan of an annual encampment has been adopted by the French ministry for some years.

A letter from Berlin has the following article: "Notwithstanding the great age of our sovereign, he is still very attentive to state affairs; part of his time he spends in seeing his troops exercised, and has given orders for augmenting his army, so that it is imagined he has some grand scheme in agitation, and intends to strike some important blow; the English and Russian ambassadors are often in private conference with his majesty, and expresses are frequently sending off to Petersburg and Vienna."

May 8. A letter from Corke says, that the William and Mary is arrived there from New-York, by which they have advice, that trade is in a flourishing state; that Swedish, Dutch, and Danish ships are arrived there with various sorts of goods, which have given trade to the inhabitants; that provisions are much cheaper, being brought in from all parts of the province; that there is no more talk of the loyalists quitting that city, they having received assurances from the congress that their persons and property shall remain safe, provided they do for the future conform themselves to the laws of the United States.

May 9. The expected reduction in the corps of artillery is suspended by order of government, pro tempore. A great number of young American adventurers in trade, have lately taken houses in France and Holland, for the purpose of managing the assignments that may be sent them from their own country.

Dr. Franklin in a late letter to a friend in England, gives an opinion, that Great-Britain will still enjoy a great part of the American trade, though he expects the Dutch will be very formidable rivals, much more so than either France or Spain, or all the other northern powers put together.

No part of the unfunded debt will be paid off, which will make an addition of thirty millions, to the present enormous amount of the fund.

It is a circumstance well known to the British ministry, that Hyder Ally has been constantly in the pay of France ever since he first invaded the Carnatic.

Additional works are making to strengthen the works on the garrison of Portsmouth, which will not be completed under four years.

None of the clergy and gentry of America, sufferers by the war, and who hold offices on that continent, under government, have been struck off the pension list at the treasury, as reported, except those who have been preferred or otherwise provided for in Great-Britain.

May 10. Notwithstanding the loss of Mr. Pitt's motion, the necessity of it still continues, for the qualifications of voters at dissent elections are so truly ridiculous, that the very mention of them is sufficient to excite a risibility. What must a foreigner conclude, when informed, that to boil a pot, to occupy a partitioned house, to marry the daughter of a burgeois, or, is the case at Midhurst, to be the tenant of a square stone in lord Montague's park, constitutes a qualification of an English elector? At the last election, a temporary tax was paid for a dog and the person who paid it, was entitled to a suffrage at Shaftsbury, and some other bo-

roughs; sleeping a single night in a pig-stye, under the appellation of a dwelling house, is the decent qualification of an elector. Such whimsical requisites could never have been founded on reason; and law, which is deemed the perfection of reason, must disdain the adoption of such chimerical attributes.

The business of a parliamentary reform, perfectly simple in itself, has been rendered complex by the injudicious mode of treating it. The object petitioned for by the people was, an "equal representation." Only one of Mr. Pitt's propositions bore any relation to the subject. His first idea was absolutely no more than a transcript of lord Mahon's economical plans for preventing expence at elections. What had this to do with the case in point? The intention was not to watch the abuses of corruption, but to stop the current from whence they flowed. The petitions from the unrepresented part of the people were before the house; their prayers required an answer, their grievances demanded relief. By Mr. Pitt's plan they neither received one, nor obtained the other. "We have not a voice in the senate by any representatives," said they. An hundred knights shall be added to the counties, replied Mr. Pitt. "We are bound by laws to which we gave no assent," rejoined the petitioners. Corruption shall be punished, he said in the next breath. Is this boyish trifling, or manly wisdom? From this memorable event we may learn, the futility of raising our expectations too high; few men answer them.

The loss of Mr. Pitt's motion may perhaps be attributed to his previous reserve. The reform aimed at was an object of infinite magnitude; and to shape a motion which should include the whole of the case, to require the constitution of age, and the hand of experience. Men of the first abilities in this country have employed their thoughts on the subject. The ideas of these men, like rays of light collected in a focus, would have illumined the design; nor could it have obscured the brilliancy of Mr. Pitt's talents to have consulted the late he declined. Enveloped in a cloud of mystery, he did indeed the commerce of discourse on the measure, and when entreated by friends of the reform to disclose his intended motions, although privately decided, he had not made up his mind. Thus venturing *propria Marte* on the Herculean task, it is surprising that not having the strength of Hercules he should fail in his labours! Mr. Pitt must know that nature has her boundaries; to transgress them is to err; and if he be yet to learn, he should be told, that the warmth of youth may attempt great things, but the vigour of age only can accomplish them.

Mr. Beaujoy, a very young member, spoke on Mr. Pitt's motion to much to the satisfaction of the house, that he gained an attention which more experienced members can seldom boast. Mr. Beaujoy is member for Minchhead.

### RICHMOND, June 28.

To JOHN THORNTON and JOHN HEATH, Esquires, delegates from the county of Northumberland.

Gentlemen,

THE present peace places us in one of those hazardous and critical situations, that makes it our duty to address you. National dignity, security, and happiness, are on the one hand, or decay and misery on the other, are consequences that will be greatly determined by our conduct, at emerging from obscurity and dependence to independent sovereignty. Our anxiety corresponds with the greatness of these concerns, when we reflect that no favourable prospect of them can be entertained, until we shall see many defects both of our government and manners, permanently and wisely reformed or abolished. The constitution itself having been hastily formed in times of turbulence and confusion, may be presumed to require amendments; we are moreover informed, that some very respectable persons of the are of opinion, that the assent and concurrence of the people in its formation, were not obtained with due solemnity and extent; as well, therefore, to put the very basis of our political structure on an unexceptionable ground, as to prevent factious or wicked men from covering their designs to disturb the good order of government, under plausible objections to its institution, we with that a convention of representatives might be called, who shall be expressly deputed by the people to review and establish the constitution. We reflect with shame, upon the repeated violations of public faith, in the management of our money affairs; even the necessities and distractions of war do not justify this conduct; but to persevere in it during a state of peace, would leave us at a loss, whether to impute merit to the folly, the criminality, or the insanity of its authors. The existence of paper money for useful purposes, pre-supposes an establishment of public credit; we think therefore, that the issuing it at this time, would serve no purpose, but to overwhelm the remains of public credit, and revive that shocking countenance to private fraud, which has too evidently followed many of our public measures. When you consider how invaluable public credit is, both in its foreign and domestic relations, we rest assured, that you will use every exertion to repair the injuries it has hitherto sustained, and to secure and cherish it in future. The want of energy and decision in the various orders of magistracy, will on a necessary occasion negligence, and where there is a disposition to it, iniquity in the several officers of state that are respectively under their controul; amongst many

ill effects deducible from this source, we particularly lament the fruitless issue of the numerous taxes we have paid; to the legislature they appeared adequate to the objects they were intended to accomplish, and yet we see public credit prostrate, our defenceless shores marked by the former ravages of a most despicable enemy, and our supplies to the continental army and treasury, as defective, as if our revenues had been peculiarly appropriated to our own protection. The multiplicity of laws which seem to have been designed to correct these abuses, tend, we think, to aggravate them. A remedy is rather to be sought in a correction of certain habits and manners, than in immediate acts of legislature. Laws have a limited effect in forming the manners of a people. The example of those, whose stations in life give them an influence over the opinions of others, is the principal instrument that can finish this great object. Those, therefore, who are in the public administration, are peculiarly bound, both by their duty and interest, to promote its accomplishment; for when manners are formed, the business of government is made easy; the whole state is in harmony with its ordinances, and co-operates in their execution; but when they are wanting, we must either be content to see a general inflexibility of the laws, a prevalence of abuses, and concision in the management of public affairs, or look for redress to such an overstrained exertion of power by some one member of the government, as will be uncomfortable to the people, and oppressive. We think it must be apparent, on the slightest reflection, that a system of manners, so inveterate by habit, and so precisely calculated as ours have been, for our former state of dependence and debasement, must be, in many respects, repugnant to the frugal, vigilant, and enlightened character of free republicans.

We feel the most liberal and conciliatory dispositions towards real British subjects; we have especially a very generous concern for the redress of many who have suffered by acts of confiscation; but with the utmost scope we can give to these sentiments, we cannot extend them to such persons of these states, as, not satisfied with the unnatural election of party they made in the late contest, have superadded the guilt of treachery or parricide. Nor can we exculpate those mercantile persons, who, having connections and obligations to the country, that ought to have insured their neutrality, have, nevertheless, retired to British posts in America, and engaged immediately in the war. We think command and policy requires, that the treaty of peace, men justice and policy requires, that the treaty of peace, as it respects these classes of men, should be interpreted with the utmost rigour that is consistent with integrity and good faith. We are entirely persuaded that the nations of Europe will endeavour, in their intercourse with us, to acquire an ascendancy in American councils; and their superiority in wealth, intrigue, and negotiation, may afford them very flattering prospects of success in the attempt; we therefore join you, in the most earnest manner, to watch with vigilance, and oppose with firmness, any tendency to so dishonourable and injurious a situation, from whatever quarter it may proceed. The British nation certainly have partisans amongst us; and however they may be induced either through direct deceit or self-delusion to show a temporary conformity to a government they can neither support nor overturn, yet we do believe that you on all points, when the interest of Great-Britain may be exclusively concerned, they will find their old bias irresistible; on this ground, though we wish their situation in the community to be as quiet and secure as possible, yet we think them very improper persons to have a share in the government; and should be well pleased if a very strict and comprehensive oath of abjuration, was made indispensable to the exercise of any civil or military office in the state.

We earnestly hope that the deliberations of the assembly, uninterrupted by local or personal debates, will be directed to the great national objects, which so peculiarly demand their unanimity and attention. We feel the most ardent wishes for the dignity and prosperity of our country, and shall contribute our share of the considerable expences that are requisite to establish them, with the greater cheerfulness, in proportion as we observe, what we wish our past experience had made more familiar, that the objects of revenue are improved with wisdom, and collected and applied with probity and diligence.

Signed by 69 of the most respectable inhabitants. Northumberland, June 19, 1783.

### NEW-YORK, July 5.

Yesterday arrived the Tyger brig, captain Smith, from Quebec, but last from Newfoundland, by which we are informed, that trade was very dull at the former place, owing to a vast influx of goods from most parts of the world; but as yet there had not arrived many new settlers from the continent of America.

On Thursday last, arrived the Clinton store-ship, from Portsmouth, after a six weeks passage.

Last Sunday, about sun-set, a horrid murder and suicide were perpetrated on board the Charming Polly frigate, lying at the commissary's wharf. Mr. Norrington, lying at the commissary's wharf, Mr. Norrington, the second mate, in the exercise of his command, having had some words of difference with one of the seamen on board (said to be a Portuguese) the latter followed the former as he was descending the steerage, and stabbed him to the heart with a knife. The assassin immediately retired below, and was found with his throat cut in the most effectual manner.