

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1783.

L O N D O N, September 15.
If it were not folly to complain of what cannot be remedied, the large portion of the Newfoundland fishery allotted by the treaty of peace to France and America, should be lamented, as a concession fatal to the navy of this country.

OB. 2. Neither faction nor disloyalty seem discoverable in any of the resolutions of the Irish volunteers. They profess, not to new model, but to restore the constitution of parliament. They object not to laws enacted by representatives; but they desire the suffrages of the representatives to be free.

ceedingly scarce and dear, and difficult to be procured by the poorer sort of people.
That the great influx of the produce of America, which took place immediately on the publication of the preliminary articles of peace, and which there was every reason to expect would continue, induced the inhabitants in general to recal their orders for supplies from Europe, and even in some measure to decline the planting of a proper quantity of ground provision, under an idea that they should be plentifully supplied from America at moderate prices, and will in consequence thereof be left destitute if the proclamation continues in force.

Sept. 29. Yesterday Henry Laurens, Esq; set out for the south of France, on a visit to his brother, who is dangerously ill.
It is expected that Mr. Laurens will be at Paris when the commercial regulations are adjusted between Great-Britain and America. He will afterwards return to this country for the last time, and proceed from hence to the continent.

St. JOHN'S (Antigua), October 6.
At a meeting of the freeholders for the division of Nonsuch, convened this day at Willoughby Bay church, for the purpose of addressing their representatives, and more especially for the purpose of giving them their sentiments and instructions upon a few important circumstances which seem deeply to affect the island of Antigua in general,
Agreed unanimously, That John Lavicount, Esq; do take the chair.

That having represented all those matters to his excellency the general in the most satisfactory and substantial manner, you join in an application to him, praying, as a temporary relief from the grievance complained of, that he would be pleased, in consideration of our complicated misfortunes, to suspend the force of the proclamation, until we can have an opportunity of making known our situation to our most gracious sovereign, and praying for a more permanent relief.
That you urge it at the first meeting of the assembly, as essentially necessary and proper, that a committee of both houses should be appointed to draw up a dutiful and affectionate address to his majesty, stating in the clearest manner our real situation, and praying that the proclamation may finally be made void; that he will in his great wisdom and goodness be graciously pleased to direct, that a more liberal mode of commerce be adopted between his majesty's subjects in the British West-India islands, and the subjects of the United States of North-America, by which his majesty's subjects of the said West-India islands may enjoy the blessings of peace and the comforts of plenty which they have been so long strangers to.

By the articles which so frequently appear in some of the courtly papers relative to the sale of Gibraltar, there seems to be an intention to feel the pulses of the people on that subject. It is a delicate theme, and cannot be touched too tenderly. But in proportion as the secret wishes of ministers, or perhaps a secret article of the definitive treaty, may favour the measure, the nation should be guarded; and under no delusive idea whatever be induced to accede to an act which would prove of such infinite detriment to this country.

TO HENRY B. LIGHTFOOT and JAMES ATHILL, Esqrs.
GENTLEMEN,
THE freeholders of the division which you represent, have observed with extreme mortification and concern, the king's proclamation, dated St. James's the 2d of July, prohibiting the produce of the United States of North-America to be imported into any of his majesty's West-India islands in any other than British built ships, owned by his majesty's subjects, and navigated according to law.

OB. 27. We have extracted, by authority, the first parts of the minutes, which contain the address to his excellency the general; the report of the committee who delivered the address; and his excellency's answer.
To his excellency THOMAS SHIRLEY, Esq; major-general in his majesty's army, captain-general and governor in chief in and over all his majesty's Leeward Caribbean Islands in America, chancellor, vice-admiral and ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.
THE assembly of Antigua, his majesty's most dutiful and faithful subjects, have ventured to address your excellency upon a very important matter of concern and distress, affecting the public of this colony. We appear before your excellency with perfect and entire confidence in the goodness of your excellency's disposition to relieve the inhabitants of Antigua, and trust that upon an occasion replete with immediate mischief and pregnant with our future ruin, your excellency will venture to make an extraordinary exercise of every power and authority, which his majesty has delegated to your excellency for wise and good purposes.

The pretensions of Spain to Gibraltar are ancient and plausible; but neither the antiquity of a claim, nor the speciousness of a right, operate on the policy of nations. The port of Dunkirk was long the property of this country, and never, strictly speaking, could be considered as a part of France: yet an attempt to repurchase it would be treated by the court of Versailles with that contempt which the court of London should manifest when the sale of Gibraltar is hinted by Spain.

Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this meeting be given to our worthy chairman, for his upright and candid behaviour on this occasion.
JOHN LAVICOUNT, chairman.

Your excellency must have beheld with pleasure, that upon the restoration of peace, this colony came into the immediate possession of an unaccustomed plenty—a plenty they had long been strangers to, and had long wished for, and in the prospect of a long enjoyment of it they had forgotten all the injuries, mischiefs and disappointments that were inseparably allied to the war.
In this momentary enjoyment, the publication of his majesty's royal proclamation, dated at St. James's, the 2d day of July last, has taken place, which by tolerating British vessels navigated according to law to trade with the United States of America, is construed to exclude by implication the United States of America from trading to our ports.

The reverend Mr. Appleby, of St. Bride's, who was buried last week, on finding himself one day indisposed in the pulpit, wound up his discourse in the following words: "It is wise enough who knows himself, great enough who masters himself, rich enough who enjoys himself, hath pleasure enough who pleases himself, and is happy enough who lives well."

Resolved unanimously, That the chairman be requested to instruct and recommend to the representatives of this division, to use their utmost efforts at the next meeting, to remove or alleviate the evil consequences, should the said proclamation continue in force.

This interpretation of the royal pleasure, arresting in so sudden a manner the commerce of America, at the very moment it was returning to our ports, has thrown the interest of the planters into more confusion and distress, than they ever felt at any stage or period of the war; because by placing a false dependence upon a continuance of such supplies, the disappointment leaves them almost without remedy, and from the best information, at a time when the provisions now at market will not answer the consumption of the island for months.