

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, N O V E M B E R 11, 1784.

L O N D O N, August 1.

THE following is a literal translation of the petition sent by the wife of Almas Ali Cawn, who was lately seized upon and put to death, for political purposes, in India.

To the high and mighty servant of the most powerful prince, George, king of England, the lowly and humble slave of misery comes praying for mercy to the father of her children.

Most mighty Sir, MAY the blessings of thy God ever wait on thee. May the sun of glory shine around thy head; and may the gates of plenty, honour and happiness be a way open unto thee and thine. May no sorrow distress thy days; may no grief disturb thy nights; may the pillow of peace kiss thy cheek, and the pleasures of imagination attend thy dreams; and when length of years makes thee tired of earthly joys, and the curtain of death closes round the last sleep of human existence, may the Angels of thy God attend thy bed, and take care that the expiring lamp of life shall not receive one rude blast to hasten its extinction.

Oh! hearken then to the voice of distress, and grant the petition of thy servant. Spare, O! spare the father of my children—save the partner of my bed—my husband—my all that is dear. Consider, O mighty Sir, that we did not become rich by iniquity, and that what he possessed was the inheritance of a long line of honouring ancestors, who, in those smiling days when the thunder of Great Britain was not heard on the fertile plains of Indostan, reaped their harvests in quiet, and enjoyed their patrimony unmolested. Think, O think, that the God whom thou worshippest, delights not in the blood of the innocent. Remember thy own commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," and obey the orders of Heaven.

Give me back my Almas Ali Cawn, and take all our wealth. Strip us of our jewels and precious stones, of our gold and our silver, but take not away the life of my husband. Innocence is seated on his brow, and the milk of human kindness flows round his heart. Let us go wander through the deserts—let us become the slaves and labourers in those delightful spots of which he once was lord and master; but spare, O mighty Sir, spare his life. Let not the instrument of death be lifted up against him; for he has committed no crime. Accept our treasures with gratitude. Thou hast them at present by force. We will remember thee in our prayers, and forget that we ever were rich and powerful. My children, the children of Almas Ali, send up their petition for the life of him who gave them life. They beseech from thee, the author of their existence.

By that humanity which we have oft been told glows in the breasts of European love-lives! by the tender mercies of the enlightened souls of Englishmen! by the honour, the virtue, the honesty, and the maternal feelings of thy great queen, whose offspring is so dear to her, the miserable wife of thy prisoner beseeches thee to save her husband's life and restore him to her arms!

Thy God will reward thee, thy country must thank thee, and she now petitioning will ever pray for thee, it thou grauntest the prayer of thy humble v. s. s.

ALMASSA ALI CAWN.

This petition was presented by the unhappy woman to the great man, who after he had perused it, gave orders that Almas Ali Cawn should be immediately strangled; and those orders were instantly put into execution. May the curse of the widow and fatherless ever pursue him!

August 9. Saturday morning some dispatches were received from Maryland, which were brought over in the Peggy, arrived in the Downs; they contain an account of every thing remaining quiet, and that trade was exceeding brisk there. She has likewise brought over great remittances to the merchants here.

The Dutch have at length consented to let the emperor open the navigation of the Scheld, and Antwerp will soon become, from being the gloomiest city on earth, one of the most active in trade, &c. How far it may affect Great-Britain, time only can discover.

By letters received from the island of Bermudas, the most flattering accounts are given of the prosperous state of that colony, whose trade is rapidly increasing, and as they have the especial privilege of a free and open commerce, both with England and America, it is become the mart for all those articles that cannot be shipped off directly to either of them. Several families are accordingly arriving daily to settle there, and many others are preparing to leave the bleak province of Nova-Scotia, for the great advantages in trade that are to be met with at Bermudas.

Extra of a letter from Galway, August 1.

Yesterday sailed for Baltimore, in America, the ship Anne and Francis of this port, Robert Down, master, with a great number of passengers and redemptioners, most of them good tradesmen, who have gone in quest of that encouragement which the distressed situation of their native country cannot afford them, but which they flatter themselves with the hope of obtaining in that land of industry. The alarming instances of emigration which continue to take place, prove the necessity of protecting duties. The landed gentlemen of this kingdom should, by affording substantial encouragement to the manufacturers of Ireland, take the only effectual method of discouraging this arduous and emigrating, which, if continued, must depopulate their

estates; and while the government of this kingdom are holding out inviting terms to induce a few Genevans to settle here, they should adopt proper measures for preventing thousands of the most useful inhabitants from quitting their connections and native country in search of bread.

Some of the merchants of this town have shipped on board the said vessel several bales of goods for the American market, as an essay, and are determined if they should meet with any encouragement, to send out a very rich cargo of Irish manufacture next spring.—Not above half the number of persons who offered themselves as passengers and redemptioners could be received on board or want of room. Nothing proves the prevailing spirit of emigration so much as the joy and alacrity of those who were disappointed in their expected passage.

August 18. The following curious method of preventing the dangerous consequence of the bite of a viper, is communicated to us in a letter from Selavonia, dated the 19th ult. A girl was stung in the arm by one of those venomous creatures; her father instantly dug a deep hole in the ground, sufficient to take in the girl's arm entirely, and then covered it all round with the earth he had taken up. In this situation she remained for twenty four hours; her father all the time watching by her, to prevent her falling asleep: thus he saved the life of his child, who never felt the least effect of the bite, and is now in perfect health.

Extra of a letter from Dr. Franklin, to the president of congress, dated Passy, January 25, 1784.

With respect to the British court, we should, I think, be constantly on our guard, and impress strongly on our minds, that though it has made peace with us, it is not in truth reconciled to us or to its loss of us, but still flatters itself with hopes, that some change in the affairs of Europe, or some division among ourselves, may afford them an opportunity of recovering their dominion, punishing those who have most offended, and securing our future dependence. It is easy to see by the general term of the ministerial newspapers (right things indeed, as it was or teachers, but like them they flew which way the wind blows) and by the malignant improvement their ministers make in all the foreign courts of every little accident or dissension among us; the riot of a few soldiers in Philadelphia, the resolves of some town meetings, the reluctance to pay taxes, &c. all which are exaggerated, to represent our government as so many anarchies, of which the people themselves are weary; the congress as having lost its influence, being no longer respected. I say, it is easy, from this conduct, to see that they bear us no good will, and that they wish the reality of what they are pleased to imagine. They have too numerous a royal progeny to provide for, some of whom are educated in the military line; in these circumstances we cannot be too careful to preserve the friendship we have acquired abroad, and the union we have established at home, to secure our credit by a punctual discharge of our obligations of every kind, and our reputation by the wisdom of our councils, since we know not how soon we may have a fresh occasion for friends, for credit, and for reputation.

August 26. Among the laws and customs of the Isle of Man, the following merits peculiar esteem, for their equity in regard to the fair sex, that most amiable part of the human species; whose chastity and preservation loudly demands the watchful care and kind assistance of every generous mind, and honest man; for such are as guardian Angels to the lovely sex:—

If a single young woman prosecutes a single man for a rape, the ecclesiastical judges impanel a jury; and if this jury finds him guilty, he is so returned to the spiritual courts, where, if he is found guilty, the dumster [i. e. the temporal judge] delivers to the woman a rope, a sword, and a ring. And she has it in her choice to have him hanged, or beheaded, or to marry him.

If any man gets a farmer's daughter with child, he shall be compelled to marry, or to endow her with such a portion as her father would have given her.

August 27. There can be but little doubt of the treaty between the Dutch and French making an entire revolution in respect to the politics of great part of the Germanic body. Not only the king of Prussia, in the natural jealousy of such an alliance, will become more envious in his exertions for his kinsman's cause, the stenuous of Orange; but the emperor also will feel a new solicitude for the fate of his dominions in the Low Countries, thus liable to be annoyed by this alliance upon either side.

The attention of the people of York at present seem totally to be taken up with viewing the learned pig and the scrib giant. The first animal is said to possess the most reason; but the last has the greatest pedigree, being a descendant of that old puissant king, Brian Borlough, the whole of whose family have each been nine feet high.

Accounts from Edinburgh say, that a new sect of physicians had lately arisen in that metropolis, who deny all passive obedience to systems, and apply the principles of the Newtonian philosophy to the art of healing. At the head of this school is Dr. Brown, whose disciples have warmly concurred with the pupils of the university professors, respecting the utility and importance of the new method of practice, in which wine and opium are said to be the principal medicines.

August 28. The balance of trade between Russia and England, in the year 1782, was upwards of 730,000l. in favour of Russia, on account of the vast quantities of naval stores, &c. imported from the Russian territories during the American war.

H O U S E O F L O R D S, FRIDAY, August 30.

This day his majesty came to this house, and being seated on the throne, the commons were sent for, and being come with their speaker, the royal assent was given to the tea and window tax duty bill, the game bill, the postage bill, the silk duty bill, the pawn-brokers bill, the lead exportation bill, and some others; after which his majesty made the following most gracious speech from the throne:

My lords and gentlemen, I cannot close this session of parliament without returning you my warmest thanks for the eminent proofs you have given of your zealous and diligent attention to the public service.

The happiest effects may be expected from the provisions which you have made for the better government of India, and from the institution of a tribunal so peculiarly adapted to the trial of offences committed in that distant country.

I observe with great satisfaction the laws which you have passed for the preservation and improvement of the revenue. No exertions shall be wanting on my part to give them vigour and effect.

Gentlemen of the house of commons, The zeal and liberality with which you have provided for the exigencies of the public service, and the assistance which you have given me to prevent a growing arrears in the expenses of my civil list, demand my particular thanks.

I feel in common with you for the unavoidable burthens of my people.

The importance of effectually supporting our national credit, after a long and exhausting war, can alone reconcile me to so painful a necessity. I trust the same consideration will enable my faithful subjects to meet it, as they have uniformly done, with fortitude and patience.

My lords and gentlemen, The definitive treaty which has been signed with the States General of the United Provinces, and the peace concluded in Amia, as well as the assurances which I receive from foreign powers, promise the continuance of general tranquillity.

I trust, therefore, that, after so laborious a session, it will not be found necessary to call you again together at a very early period.

Many important objects with respect to our trade and commerce, which could not now be provided for, will naturally require your attention after the recess; and such regulations will, I trust, be framed, after a full investigation, as shall be found best calculated to promote the wealth and prosperity of all the parts of the empire.

N E W - Y O R K, October 21.

A sufficient number of the senate and assembly being convened on Monday last, at the city hall, previous to their entering upon business, his excellency the governor was pleased to make the following speech:

Gentlemen of the senate and assembly,

SINCE the close of the last session, the legislature of the state of Massachusetts have thought fit to set up a claim to land, which it is to be inferred, from their petition to the honourable the United States in congress, lie some where within the antient jurisdiction of this state, but in what part, or to what extent, is left in obscurity. They have, notwithstanding, requested that a federal court may be appointed for inquiring into, and determining such claim; and congress have accordingly assigned the first Monday in December next, for the appearance of both states, and such other proceedings as are directed by the articles of confederation and perpetual union. From the act of congress of the 3d day of June last, on this subject, and the papers accompanying it, you will perceive the necessity of appointing agents to manage the controversy on the part of this state; and of calling for an explicit description of the land claimed by the Massachusetts, without which we must be exposed in our defence, to unnecessary difficulties and expence. The importance of these measures, and the election of delegates and members to compose a council of appointment for the ensuing year, were the principal inducements to your being assembled at a season which I am sensible must be inconvenient.

The acts of congress of the 27th, 28th, and 29th of April, respecting the arrears of interest of the national debt, and the expence for the year 1784, and a requisition of money to discharge the same, and another act of the 3d of June, recommending it to this and some other of the states to raise a proportion of their militia for taking possession of the western posts, guarding the public stores, and protecting the treaties with the Indians (all which are now laid before you) came to my hands some time after the last adjournment. It appeared to me impracticable, after near six months had been spent by the legislature in the public business, without any intermission, to have convened you at an earlier period; and it was the less necessary, as before the recommendation for raising these troops was communicated to me, it had been discovered, that there