

their first session every year, and minister of the said, as nearly as possible to the duty severally of taxables. Provided, that no payment be made for any payment to this state, and on any term, not on any certain place or persons, who are nominated as a third or more name and place or registered by the name of their count...

of those worthy patriots who framed our constitution, there being forty-one members for the clause, and only eight against it, and these chiefly the same men, who oppose the present bill, upon the principle "that legislative aid is not necessary to promote religious observances." When it is considered who are the persons who contend for this principle, at present, it seems extremely difficult to reconcile them to themselves, or to account for their motives, upon any principles which charity can believe to be of a religious kind; because the very same denominations of persons, wherever they are the majority, and can obtain any "legislative aid to promote their own religious observances," are not slack to make it one of the first concerns of civil government, and to enforce it with a strict hand. In the four New-England states, the prevailing denominations are, the presbyterian, congregational, or congregated churches, and the anabaptists (chiefly in Rhode-Island). In the Massachusetts, the necessity of "legislative aid to religion," is laid down as the basis of their government, and the legislature have not even a choice left them, but it is commanded them, in the third section of the declaration of rights—that they "shall, from time to time, authorize and require, the several towns, parishes, precincts, and other bodies politic, or religious societies, to make suitable provision, at their own expence, for the instruction of the public worship of God, and for the support and maintenance of public teachers of piety, religion and morality, in all cases where such provision shall not be made voluntarily." Laws have been made accordingly in the Massachusetts and Connecticut; and "if any minister finds himself aggrieved by too scanty an allowance (whether the provision be voluntarily or by law) he may apply to the general assembly, and have a sufficient maintenance ordered to be given him by the inhabitants of the town or society; and if any town or society be any year or years, without a minister preaching the Gospel to them, such town or society shall in the said year or years, pay such sum as the general court shall appoint, which sum is to be disposed of and improved by the county court of that county, for the ministry in such town or society where it is collected, as soon as an opportunity may be had for it, according to the discretion of the court." The whole of the Connecticut laws from which the above extract is taken, is enforced under the strongest penalties upon every person whatsoever. "Each town or society, by their proper votes or acts, shall annually grant a TAX for the support of the ministry. Some assistant or justice of the peace shall give his writ or warrant for levying or collecting the same—which, when levied, shall be paid to the minister within two months after his salary becomes due—otherwise distress shall go out against the negligent collector to the sheriff or constable of the town to levy what remains unpaid to the minister, out of the estate of the collector; or out of the estate of the said men or town committees, if it be through their neglect, with a fine of three pounds for every such neglect—to be recovered by the state's attorney, and no appeal shall be granted." Moreover by the act for "regulating religious societies," no new society can be set up without leave of the general assembly, who are to judge what societies or denominations of men shall have liberty to procure and have the preaching of the Gospel among them, on account of their dissenting from the way of worship and ministry of the presbyterian, congregational and associated churches aforesaid, which are considered as the bodies established—And every person who has made his election to join any society, must continue a member of such society during his continuance within the limits of such society, unless released by act of general assembly, or the vote of such society—which release such society is not required, but only authorized to grant by a legal vote in their meeting, if they think fit—And the act concludes with this proviso, still holding up an establishment of the presbyterian and congregational societies aforesaid, and calling all other dissenters from them—the words are as follow, viz. "Provided nothing in this act shall affect the privileges allowed by law to any person or persons, who soberly dissent from the worship and ministry established by the laws of this state." In Rhode-Island, where the anabaptists are a large body, they have taken very great care to obtain legislative interference to secure to themselves a share proportionably large in the religion and government of their college. I have not their body of laws at present, to enable me to enter further into their other religious regulations. In South-Carolina the constitution interferes so far in religious matters as to require every society, which is to be tolerated and to have the benefit of the religious establishment, to give themselves a name by which they shall be known in law, to consist of fifteen or more male persons, not under twenty-one years of age, professing the christian protestant religion, and to subscribe a certain CREED of five articles, the last of which is "that it is lawful and the duty of every man, being thereunto called by those that govern, to bear witness to truth." Without examining the constitutions and laws of the other states at present, let the bill under consideration, which is so vehemently opposed by certain denominations of men, be only compared with the foregoing regulations and establishments which the same denominations have judged necessary to be made for themselves, whenever they had the power, and let them blush to find themselves so far exceeded in point of liberality. For by the bill in question, there is no distinction, discrimination or exclusion of any christian society, whether protestant or catholic; and the assentment of those who will not make their election of any ministry, or have none whom they chuse to join, is not to be given to those who call themselves the majority, or consider themselves as the established and favoured society, but to be proportionably shared by all. Moreover, as the bill is yet under consideration, dissenters are desired and requested, that if any society or denomination of persons, shall think themselves particularly aggrieved by any part of the bill, and will represent the same to their delegates, it will be altered and amended in such manner as to place every society upon the most perfect equality possible, according to the constitution and bill of rights, without any "preference or discrimination."

LONDON, October 19. THE king sent a message last week to his grace the duke of Portland, commanding his attendance at Windsor. What was the object of this conference, has not yet transpired, but it is supposed to have related to the present situation of affairs in Ireland. The ruin of Amsterdam is inevitable, if the emperor succeeds in his pretensions, as the revival of affairs at Antwerp will change the current of trade, and direct it into a new channel. Dr. Priestly has communicated an experiment, by which he has discovered an inflammable air that can be prepared for one twentieth of the expence attending the preparation at present in use. PHILADELPHIA, January 1. On Christmas day there were two hundred and nine vessels lying along the docks and wharfs of this city, viz. ninety-four square rigged, several of which are loaded and prepared for sea, and one hundred and fifteen coasters and river craft, among the latter twenty-four were loaded with fuel. Upwards of nine hundred vessels have entered at the custom-house in this city, from the first of May last to this day. The navigation of the Delaware has been impeded for some days past, by the ice, which renders it unsafe for vessels either to come in or go out. Several inward as well as outward bound vessels are now lying at Fort Mifflin, Chester, and Marcus Hook; among which are the ship Enterprise, Deruise, from Hispaniola, the ship Hendrick, Clark, from Baitol, the brig Charleston Packet, Allibone, from Charleston, the brig Devonshire, Burrows, from Savannah, in Georgia, the brig Betsey, Irvine, from Jamaica, and a schooner from Beverly, in New England. BALTIMORE, January 14. We were misinformed of the quantity of gunpowder said to have been in the lot of Mr. Isaac Abraham's house, at the time of the explosion, as we now find it was about 45 pounds (and not the quantity mentioned in our last) which was the cause of that misfortune. ANNAPOLIS, January 20. A late English news-paper mentions, that no advices had been received by which it might be judged whether the difference between the emperor and the Dutch would, at length, end in war; but that it rather appeared, something like a compromise was intended, and would be effected by the mediation of other powers. The United States in Congress assembled, having recognized Charles Hultest, Esq; as consul from his Swedish majesty, to reside at Philadelphia, the supreme executive council of Pennsylvania have publicly declared, that the privileges, pre-eminence, and authority, belonging to such character and quality, are due to him. * * * No post from the northward since Sunday week last. BY virtue of a law passed this present session, for altering the time for holding the courts, notice is hereby given, That Saint Mary's county court will be held on the Monday before the fourth Tuesday in March, and on the Mondays before the first Tuesdays in June and September. Charles county court, on the Monday before the first Tuesday in April, and on the Mondays before the second Tuesdays in June and September. Prince-George's county, on the Monday before the second Tuesday in April, and on the Mondays before the fourth Tuesdays in June and September. Calvert county, on the Monday before the third Tuesday in April, and on the Mondays before the third Tuesdays in June and September. Anne-Arundel county, January 10, 1785. To be SOLD, on Tuesday the 25th instant, at the plantation of the late Mr. Thomas Watkins, sen. for cash, or credit till the first day of August next, SEVERAL articles of household furniture. All persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those who have claims against it are desired to bring them in on that day legally attested for settlement. JOHN ADDISON, executor, LUCY ADDISON, executrix. BUILDING. Annapolis, January 18, 1785. EDWARD VIDLER, HAVING imported a number of able workmen in the building branch, will undertake to erect or repair either public or private buildings; he will survey, measure, or estimate, for those who please to favour him with their orders. He has several marble and Portland stone chimney pieces ready for fixing up on the shortest notice. N. B. A store will be opened on Monday next at his house (late Mr. Joseph Middleton's) near the dock. LOST, On Wednesday, January 12, 1785, By GERARD CROWN, Near Patuxent river, in Prince-George's county, A CERTIFICATE, dated September 19, 1782, in favour of Francis Clements, of Montgomery county, for £.69 10 3 specie. The person who has found the same shall receive a reward of twelve dollars on delivering it to the subscriber. FRANCIS CLEMENTS. Here the word parish is used, although the same word is used in certain of their brethren here. They exclude Roman catholics.

NOTICE is hereby given, that on Tuesday the 8th of February next will be sold, at public vendue, one moiety of the schooner JOLLY TACK, and her tackle, now laying in Annapolis harbour, late the property of James Robinson, jun. deceased, the due to be held on board the said schooner, at Logan's wharf, at ten o'clock. She will carry thirty two hogheads of tobacco under her deck. All persons having any claims against the estate of the said James Robinson, jun. deceased, are hereby requested to bring them in, that they may be adjusted; and all those indebted are requested to make payment to JAMES ROBINSON, sen. administrator. Annapolis, January 18, 1785. THIS is to inform my debtors, that I am in great want of money, and necessity will oblige me to put the law in force against those who do not make payment before the 10th day of February next. JOSEPH BREWER. South river, January 18, 1785. THIS is to forewarn all persons from hunting or shooting on my plantation with dog or gun; as they may depend on being prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law. MORDECAI STEWART. THERE is at the plantation of Baldwin Lusby, near the Head of South river, a blue Hog, marked with a crop and a slit in the right ear, and a crop in the left. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges. TAKEN up at the plantation of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq; near Annapolis, a dark brown HEIFER, about three years old, marked with an under cut on each ear, and has a little white on the rump. The owner may have her again on proving property and paying charges. By the COMMITTEE of CLAIMS, November 17, 1784. NOTICE is hereby given, that the committee of claims will sit at the assembly room, in the said house, every day during this session, from the hours of 9 till 12 o'clock, to receive and allow all just claims that may be exhibited against the public. By order, A. GOLDER, clk. By the COMMITTEE of GRIEVANCES and COURTS of JUSTICE. NOTICE is hereby given, that the committee of grievances and courts of justice will sit every day during the present session, from 12 until 3 o'clock in the afternoon. By order, R. B. LATIMER, clk. January 11, 1785. To be SOLD by PUBLIC SALE, at the Head of South river, on Monday the 24th instant, if fair, if not the next fair day following, THE stock, household and kitchen furniture, of Mr. Cornelius Barry, deceased. Intendant's office, January 10, 1785. IN consequence of a resolution of the general assembly, passed the 6th instant, I hereby give notice to such persons, who are possessed of bills of credit of May session 1781, commonly called red money, or of certificates for the said money lent the state, that the treasurer of the western shore will redeem the same with gold and silver, provided such bills be carried into the treasury before the 25th day of June next, after which time the said bills will not be redeemed; and in order to save trouble and expence to the holders of such bills or certificates, that the collectors of the several counties within this state, have directions to receive the same as gold and silver for all taxes and arrears of taxes, imposed by any law or laws of this state, provided the same be done by the first day of June next. DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER, intendant of the revenue. [Mr. Goddard, and the printers at Philadelphia, are requested to insert the above in their respective gazettes for four weeks.] CAME to the plantation of John Mercer, living on the Head of South river, some time last spring, a large red and white steer, with a crop in the right ear, an under and over bit in the left, and a nick in the left horn. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.