

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1785.

L O N D O N, June 11—July 30. CERTAIN royal duke is reported to have lost 60,000l. at play with a French nobleman at Avignon. Congress has sent a plenipotentiary to the court of Spain. He is instructed to demand a free navigation of the river Mississippi to American vessels, and in the event of a refusal to signify to the Spanish ministry that the United States will not deem themselves answerable for any depredations their citizens may make on the subjects of Spain, in Florida and Louisiana.

By letters from Cadix, dated June 2, we learn, that the Spanish armament, which has for some time past been sitting out at Ferrol, received orders from the court of Madrid to debark all the land forces destined for the siege of Algiers, certain accounts having been received of the plague and a putrid dysentery raging with great violence throughout the whole of the piratical states.

A letter from Cornwall, dated June 20, says, "Our wheat in general in these parts looks well, but what will become of our barley, oats, and grass, unless rain comes soon, God only knows; the stock of old hay is all spent, and this scarcity hath induced the farmers to look a little more forward than they were wont to do, and put them upon the tilage of turneps for their winter provision."

By letters from Bath we hear, that the scarcity of water there is very great, it being sold about the streets, a very extraordinary circumstance, considering its singular situation.

France, as well as England, has reaped some advantage from the Dutch troubles, as large sums of money have been sent from Holland to both those countries, in consequence of the unsettled state of their affairs at home.

Every advice from Dublin says, that the propositions will meet with the most violent opposition. All the first people of abilities are decidedly against them, viz. Grattan, Daly, Flood, &c. Indeed the entire dread the defection of Daly more than any circumstance since the duke of Rutland's administration.

A letter from Dublin, dated July 8, says, "The fate of our commercial, legislative, and judicial rights, is entirely involved in the present intended regulations between the two kingdoms. The civil and personal liberties of not only the present age, but even of posterity to the latest generation, are, moreover, particularly at stake. The distinct exercise of the royal executive at home, and the imperial executive abroad, are also deeply concerned, as likewise the judicial privilege of regulating our own revenue. Our independence, nay our very existence as a respective kingdom, absolutely rests upon the final determination of the present serious and important business; Irish firmness, unanimity, and patriotism, were never more called on for exertion, than in the hour of national trial that now approaches, and presses on us almost every instant. We have now no alternative left, but to accept of conditions that are big with destruction to our commercial and political welfare, or to reject the whole with a becoming spirit, and a zeal for the public welfare. The cause of patriotism is waxing strong, and will every day receive fresh accessions to its power, till at length, it will become irresistible in its effects; the firm phalanx of Ireland's friends will be able to bear down all opposition, and overcome, in the end, every open attack and insidious stratagem."

To suppose that the Irish propositions had originated from the wishes of the people of Ireland, must indeed be absurd and ridiculous to the last degree. Can it be believed that Irishmen were weary of their legislative independence so recently confirmed to them, or that they requested to give up an unrestrained trade to the united colonies, that they wished to be bound for ever in the trammels of the British monopolies, or that they would reject the idea of protecting duties, in order to obtain the precarious advantage of the British market? Irishmen never demanded such regulations; the desire of such an arrangement never pervaded the community at large, nor even a single class or denomination in any part of the kingdom. Let not administration, therefore, at the other side, be under the smallest apprehension of disobliging the people of this country, by withholding this wonderful favour that is now in agitation; but, on the contrary, let them consider, that no measure, at any former period whatever, has been so justly and generally disapproved, and that the total suppression of the present plan, would be a boon of the most inestimable value to the subjects of both kingdoms.

The accommodation between the emperor and the republic is now looked upon as certain. It is assured that the courier dispatched last Friday night by the French ambassador, carries assurances to the ministry of Versailles, that the states general have at last consented to the conditions proposed; and that the deputies of the republic will set out for Vienna without delay. Such is, at least, the general report, which every thing confirms to be well grounded. Nevertheless the absence of his imperial majesty may possibly retard the business, as it will be difficult to combine the time of the arrival of the deputies, with that of his iradject's return from his intended voyage to Italy. However, it is thought that circumstance will not occasion any change in the present dispositions; therefore we may still depend on the probability of peace.

N E W - Y O R K, September 21. On the 24th ult. congress resolved, "That the secretary to the United States for foreign affairs be, and he is hereby directed to report the draught of an act to be recommended to the legislatures of the respective states, for punishing the infractions of the laws of nations, and more especially for securing the privileges and immunities of public ministers from foreign powers."

The 7th inst. congress came to the following resolution, "That the post-master-general be, and he is hereby authorized and instructed under the direction of the board of treasury, to enter into contracts, under good and sufficient security, for the conveyance of the different mails by the stage carriages, from Portsmouth in the state of New-Hampshire, to the town of Savannah in the state of Georgia; and from the city of New-York, to the city of Albany, in the state of New-York, according to the accustomed route."

We are informed that the hon. John Rutledge, Esq; has declined the appointment of minister plenipotentiary to the United Netherlands; the situation of his private affairs from a long attention to public services, prevents his accepting the honourable station.

We hear from good authority that congress have directed the board of treasury to report an ordinance for fixing the standard of weights and measures throughout the United States of America.

From various accounts it appears probable, that the surveyors appointed by congress to lay out the western lands, will meet with opposition from the natives, who, perhaps, have had too little attention paid to rights which they possess in common with other nations.

Sept. 14. On the 17th ult. congress came to the following resolution:

Whereas many states in the union, continue to be unrepresented in congress, or represented by only two members, notwithstanding the many urgent recommendations of congress for remedying these defects, particularly those of the first of November, 1783, and the 19th of April, 1784: And whereas for the want of a complete representation, the great interests of the union have frequently been, and continue to be neglected or delayed; and the confederation itself, or the administration thereof by congress, may be considered as the cause of evils which solely result from an incompetent representation; And whereas it is incumbent on congress to prevent opinions so derogatory to their honour, and so dangerous to the public welfare,

Resolved, That the secretary of congress shall, once in every month, transmit to the legislatures of the respective states, a list of the states represented and of those unrepresented in congress, and of the members from each state; that the several measures may from time to time be taken by such states as may be unrepresented or represented by only two members, to remedy these defects.

On a report of the board of treasury, they have also resolved, that in all cases where certificates of the United States payable to the bearer, have been lost, and no satisfactory evidence given of the same having been destroyed; it would be improper that any new certificates should be issued to replace the same.

PHILADELPHIA, September 17.

On Wednesday arrived in the ship London Packet, captain Fruxton, his excellency Dr. Franklin, late minister plenipotentiary from the United States of America to the court of France, after an absence of near nine years.

The important services in which this gentleman hath been a principal agent—the steady and painful services he hath rendered his country for a long series of years, and the honour he hath conferred on America as a politician and a philosopher, furnish a striking example how much a people may be benefited by an individual, and how greatly a single citizen may dignify a nation. The exalted names of WASHINGTON and FRANKLIN, will be the boast of Americans in centuries yet to come. The doctor was received at the wharf, by a number of citizens, who attended him to his house with acclamations of joy. A discharge of cannon announced his arrival, and the bells rang a joyful peal to his welcome. With the doctor came his grandsons Mr. Temple Franklin, and Master Benjamin Bache.

ANNAPOLIS, September 29.

Extra of a letter from a gentleman in Dublin to another in Baltimore. Dated July 13, 1785.

The commercial propositions of the British parliament do not, by any means, meet with the approbation of the people in general; several counties and cities are instructing their representatives to postpone the discussion of them until the next session.

The county of Armagh have unanimously agreed to petition parliament on the subject, and are now circulating copies, in order to take the signatures of the freeholders. Other counties are in motion, and following their example. Corke, Tipperary, Carlow, King's county, Donegall, and Tyrone, have all declared against the propositions.

TO THE FREEMEN AND ELECTORS OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

FRIENDS and fellow citizens, THE time is near at hand when your virtue and public spirit are again to be put to the proof; by a

new election of your delegates in assembly. To prepare you for this great work, the Baltimore press, for ten months past, hath groaned under the various labours of *Finder*, the *Planter*, the *American*, *Tarvis*, *Venus*, *Civis*, *Academicus*, the *CHRISTIAN*, an *old Soldier*—and who not? Neither private nor public characters have escaped their slanders; inasmuch that a stranger might be led to believe that *wisdom and virtue* existed no where in Maryland, save in the good town of Baltimore; and that all its tradesmen and shopkeepers had quitted every other tool and employ for the sake of wielding their goose-quill, and reforming the state.

But although a stranger might be led thus to believe, or to think, there are others, better informed, who are not backward to assert, that all this noise and tumult is the work only of a small but ambitious faction, striving to mislead their more simple neighbours; and that, if a certain by-ends man and apothecary were to exchange their GOOSE-QUILLS for their *needle and press*, and a certain person his *political baranques* for *evangelical lectures of peace and good-will*, the town of Baltimore might yet become respectable and thriving, and the voice of good men be more regarded in it. The printers of these pieces, however, will be able to resolve this question, viz.—Whether they are the production of one or two men only; or of a whole multitude, or legion of men? For it cannot be supposed that a gentleman who hath so long signified himself as Mr. GODDARD has done, by the *credulity of his press*, and his aversion to *private scandal, scurrility and abuse*, could, without the greatest sollicitation, and *making sure of his authors*, have published pieces of such a gross and libellous nature, as may yet subject him and them to a very serious account.

The situation of a printer (says an elegant writer) is indeed delicate, and the LIBERTY OF THE PRESS very sacred in its nature. But *personal abuse* is in itself so hateful, that every person of common prudence and humanity inclines to avoid it for his own sake, even if it were not condemned by the laws of God and man. That attacks should be made by *unknown persons* on *private reputations* indiscriminately, and that slanders should be heaped together of the most abusive nature and malignant hue, and be made the subject of news-papers and pamphlets, and dealt forth and retailed, in one publication after another, without proof, without foundation, and even without any name, who dares venture to support the charges made—this certainly is not necessary to the *liberty of the press*, or the good of mankind; but is converting the *freedom of writing* into downright licentiousness and abuse, and is destructive of the great bonds of society, and every sort of domestic and private felicity. If men's *personal characters or conduct* are to be brought on the public stage, let it be in the face of day—in a generous and undiguised manner—not in private whispers or anonymous slander, but by an open enemy, who will avow himself like a man, and boldly put his name to what he writes. Whatever is done otherwise is not for the sake of truth, but to mislead the unwary, and to promote faction and party views.

Of this nature are most of the publications above referred to. They reprobate, in the gross, the whole proceedings of the last session of assembly. They call it the *black session*, and vilify those illustrious patriots and statesmen of both houses, by whose great abilities and unremitting labours, the sinking credit of the state hath been retrieved, its finances wisely and fully arranged, and other foundations laid for its future PROSPERITY, glory, and importance, among the United States of America; as have excited the highest applause of our more impartial neighbours in the present day, and will meet with that of our posterity in days yet to come! But nothing can be tolerated by those Baltimorean writers, which has not the immediate local and partial interest of that town for its object. The *Potowmack navigation act* hath been reprobated by them (although it tends to connect us with the whole western world, and near half the counties of the state communicate with the waters of that river; and will be benefited by its navigation); while a similar law for the *Susquehanna navigation*, from which Baltimore alone expects the chief benefit, is for that reason warmly approved. In like manner, the appropriation of a few hundred pounds out of the ordinary and retailers licences (to make good the interest of an old debt, for which the public faith stood solemnly pledged) in order to enlighten the minds of the RISING GENERATION, and to keep them from running their HEADS against folly and ignorance, in their future walk, as citizens, lawgivers, and patriots (whereby thousands of treasure will be annually saved within the state) is nevertheless exclaimed against as an extravagant waste of public money; while the grant of a like, and perhaps much larger, yearly sum, out of the same ordinary and retailers licences, to enlighten the streets of Baltimore, and keep the good people of that town from running their heads against the post, in their night-walks, is deemed a very salutary provision. The duty on salt too, and some other duties, which in some instances are smaller, and in none greater than in the neighbouring states (where they are intended to operate as a regulation of trade, as well as a productive revenue) are in the creed of those writers declared ruinous to the trade of Baltimore.

But as there are wise and worthy men in that town, it is impossible that such fallacies can long prevail, although they may be made use of for a time to impose on the ignorant and credulous; and (by blackening the

August 26, 1785. at PUBLIC day of September

elder-town, situated the town, viz. one s high, with three our in the upper, a house, bounded by an Queen's street adjoining, which nient family dining building on High-ning on Queen's- g thereto, 92 feet, also a good framed ne smoke house on The other lot is 92 running back 180 x house, two stores er and three in the en, under which is o on the premises These houses and owing terms, and on the first day of art of the purchase ; bonds on interest h approved security, ayable in two equal ay of October in the both day of October

OMAS SMYTH.

L F,

on, lying on Patow- side of Piscataway flourishing town of res, more or less; if not superior to any rly the whole being pport it with care for t acres of excellent little trouble or exle spot is almost fur- and fowl in their abundance throughs tend the situation tedious t-mention. od land, within one will fell together or vant genus. One ll be paid down, or e years credit will e bond with approved fold, there will be likely country born hogs, and plantation

J. H. BEANES.

September 2, 1785. en to all persons in- aryland, that do not bonds by the last day all issue agreeably to e emission of bills of re thousand pounds, ue in lands, &c. NIFER, intendant

August 13, 1785.

John Chew, of Anne- ceased, are desired to be a sufficient estate to refore requested to ex- possible, that the ex- and quality, and pro-, as far as he has ef- tors whose claims are proportionable part, and disagreeable necessity er, he submits to them her and agreeing up n executor will meet the in September next, at deceased.

CHEW, executor.

furnished himself with carrying on the stay- to inform his good old e business is carried on ders for stays will be fully executed by their

RLES LANSDALE.

ce Annapolis, stores in rough, Port-Tobacco, ptico, Mr. James Jor- ay, Leonard-town, the densburg, and George- use at Piscataway, will

RLES LANSDALE.

Charles-Street.