

declared him an improper officer, and to my knowledge has expressed no sentiment respecting any other one. Although the Delegate has only declared against one, yet there are others he means to exclude, all I presume who pursued the policy of that senator; the Citizen is equally anxious for their continuance in office, as they have been the means of preventing many measures he conceived impolitic.

Conjecture and report have led the Delegate to an imagined knowledge of the author of the Citizen, and in the spirit of prophecy, he determines what may be his views, motives, &c. the ambition of being a legislator. If ever the Citizen shall have the honour of appearing in a public capacity, he is bold to say, he shall carry into the service of his country a pure and honest heart; nay more may be said, he in some measure merits the confidence of his country. The Citizen confesses himself yet in the dawn of life, and has the pleasing reflection of having devoted his youth rather to the acquisition of knowledge, than the folly of dissipation, and in spite of all the Delegate's unmerited malevolence, he has the pleasing consolation of being esteemed by every honest man to whom he is known. But as the Delegate's penetrating genius has seen in imagination the Citizen's intended conduct, permit him to exercise the same office by the Delegate; every indulgence should be mutual, and common discernment, without the spirit of divination, will point out the truth in this inquiry. There are few men in public life who have not traits in their public characters peculiar to themselves, the Delegate is not without his share; to govern the public councils of this State, is the ruling passion of his soul, and his declared intentions to decline the public service, only betrayed the frailty of human nature. There is much reason to believe that all the grand leading points of his policy are carried in the house of delegates; it is only necessary that a proper senate be procured; to effect this purpose nothing appeared to the Delegate more effectual than to obtain a seat among the electors of the senate, this not only to ensure his own seat in the senate, but that his influence might be exerted in giving to that body the form which would best answer his political views. This, I imagine, is justified by the Delegate, on a principle that all the wisdom of the state is centered in him, and that under his administration alone the public weal can flourish. The allurements to the exercise of power are strong, and have been the destruction of many republics. By the way, let me observe, that if all the Delegate's golden prospects should terminate in the bare acquisition of a seat in that honourable body, amidst the approved members, the citizens of this community will have little reason to dread his influence. The transition from the house of delegates to the senate is great. If the delusions of vanity have flattered the Delegate into an opinion that his talents are calculated to rule a select body of sensible men, never was poor wight so egregiously mistaken; let him figure to himself the mortification of repeated inattentions to those declamatory speeches, where assertion passed for proof and argument, with which he was wont to bend the yielding delegates to all his purposes. 'Tis not in the shape of an elector or senator alone that the Citizen dreads the Delegate; but when the plan of his elevation involves the downfall of approved members of the senate, ought not every citizen to take the alarm? Who are to determine the difference between political characters in a commonwealth? Shall the voice of one individual be taken in preference to that of all the community? No, my fellow citizens, giving all the credit that is due to the Delegate's popular talents, he has not yet convinced the citizens of this state, that his voice is superior to their united wisdom. Was it so, we should kneel to a sovereign in one of our servants.

It is asserted by the Delegate, if the senate was against a bill for an emission last session for a defect of system in the plan, they did not exhibit any striking proofs of political wisdom by refusing the one sent by the house of delegates, and not suggesting another. Is it not very possible, that the plan on which the senate might have been for an emission would have made it a money bill? I have strong suspicions that the Delegate, to prevent the senate from chalking out one of his favourite schemes, would have construed into a money bill whatever was sent. Admit that the senate were against the plan of lending it out on private security, that one greedy monster might not have had an opportunity of swallowing it all, what plan could they have fallen on that would not have come within the definition of raising money?

The Citizen in making this address to the public, does not aim at the arduous task of rousing the Delegate's feelings, the nerve of sensibility is long since lost in him, and the Citizen is too much of a musician, to think of playing on an instrument destitute of tone. By the coarsest language has the Delegate endeavoured to wound the Citizen. It might have been expected, that the example of so great a man would be followed; but with an admired author let me exclaim, "Ye powers, who touch the tongue with eloquence, whatever be my cast, grant me but decent words, and I will give up my nature;" and could the Delegate feel the superiority of that temper which will not descend to such a liberal practice, he would envy, and perhaps imitate. In all the pomp of an overheated impetuosity, has the Delegate dared a boy, a quack politician, an incorrigible blockhead, to combat his opinions. March's fortitude! And has the

Delegate that confidence in his own bravery, to enter the lists on terms so unequal? And this is not all the Citizen expects; on the day of election how will he attempt to ridicule and torture this address, call the author blockhead, and vent his declamation in all the troubled bitterness of malevolence. This the Citizen expects and disregards; he feels all the above sentiments, and if he had not spirit to avow them, he should be a traitor to his country.

In making these remarks, permit me to assure the world, that there are characters in the senate as truly dear to me as men in public life can be; nay I should consider the safety and well being of the state in danger, if robbed of their superior wisdom; and yet, with the utmost humility, I cannot help expressing my opinion, that their political sentiments in some respects have differed from my own; but a liberal spirit shall ever teach me to respect the man, who, from my own knowledge, acts on principle, whose soul is above the influence, the temptation of interest, let his conduct be what it may; to gain their good opinion has been one of the objects of my youth, and to preserve it, if gained, is my highest ambition. To the Delegate's I never aspired; and much injustice was done the Citizen, when the Delegate supposed that his address was intended to stab his integrity; it was aimed at him in the character of a public man, yielding to that fondness for power which has insensibly worked on the best of men. I declare, on my honour, I never felt myself an enemy to the Delegate; he will say he never asked my friendship; but for such weaknesses I have compassion, and unmerited sarcasm will never suppress that benevolence I have for every son of nature. But when the Delegate strikes at my honour, with a charge of being guilty of a wilful breach of veracity, it can never be forgiven.

A CITIZEN.

To SAMUEL CHASE, Esquire.

DEAR SIR,

THIS is the first time that I have addressed you in this form of correspondence; and I may add, the first time that I ever gave my written sentiments to the public without your knowledge or consideration. It is now upwards of twenty years since we embarked in public life; sufficient time and abundant opportunity have been given us to acquire a thorough knowledge of each other, of mankind, and of the public affairs of this country.

It is not, my friend, the babbling of misguided mortals, uninformed, perhaps unprincipled, that can shake my regard and affection for you. I know the leading virtues of your heart—they are such, as the God of Heaven has founded our religion upon—HUMANITY, CHARITY and BENEVOLENCE. Nor is it the clamour of designing men, nor the noise and nonsense of upstart politicians and piddling geniuses, that can lessen my opinion of your great and important usefulness in public life.

It was in this city you made your first appearance on the public stage. A glorious enthusiasm for liberty and rightful government then animated its citizens, and no people in the world were more enlightened or better instructed in their rights and liberties. Popularity then was founded upon merit, and our tradesmen and mechanics had the virtue to feel a personal regard and attachment for the men they had tried and found faithful.

Upwards of twenty years you alternately represented in the general assembly this city and Anne Arundel county, and had their confidence and support. In return, your life has been devoted to their service. By your labours and exertions Annapolis has been gratified in every wish and expectation of its citizens. We cannot pass the streets without meeting with some monument of your services. The elegant building now completing for the residence of the governor of the state for the time being; the noble college which is now emerging from an ancient ruin; the magnificent church, whose foundations are now begun; the towering steeple of our superb staid-house;—all proclaim your zeal for the aggrandisement and glory of this city.

The citizens of Annapolis, even in their present moment of insatiation, cannot surely forget your important services the last session of assembly. It was your eloquence that broke the combinations formed against the city, and saved and defended it from great and capital injuries, if not from total ruin and destruction. A great and powerful party, it must be remembered, moved for suspending the public funds granted for the support of the colleges, and for making a different appropriation of them to answer other public occasions; the same party opposed a further grant of public money to erect a steeple on the staid-house; and even the act respecting our church, was opposed. Aided by additional numbers, and offended and exasperated with some proceedings of the city, the same powerful party made a bold and resolute attempt to remove the seat of government to Baltimore-town—the citizens attended, and heard you upon these interesting subjects; you gave them every proof, every demonstration of the purest love, affection and attachment; they saw you overwhelmed with sorrow and concern for their safety and happiness; they admired—they felt your pathetic strokes and flights of eloquence—and some had the virtue to drop a tear. You bore down all opposition before you, and baffled all the projects of that dangerous and formidable party.

Struck with the deepest sense of these great and substantial services, the citizens publicly addressed you, and returned you their thanks.

Through every stage of the late revolution, and long before its commencement, I was an eye-witness of your conduct. It was your lot to be called up by your country to fill the high stations of delegate to the general assembly, and delegate to congress. These characters required every exertion of the head, and every virtue of the heart. If your fellow citizens want information of your labours and merits, let them go to the archives of Maryland, let them go to the archives of congress, and there read the annals and records of public characters and public transactions. Every page, my friend, will speak of your services, your indefatigable exertions, your zeal and patriotism.

After a life thus devoted to the public; after twenty-five years service with so much zeal and fidelity; after such distinguished proofs of affection for the citizens, and of attention to the interest and grandeur of Annapolis; and when now advanced in life, and your health injured and broke in so long a service; and when by being such a drudge and slave to public business, your fortune has been narrowed, and your circumstances lessened; and when necessity, principally resulting from your devotion to the public service, obliges you within a few months, perhaps weeks—to separate from connexions dear and valuable to you—and to depart this city to seek for a more liberal subsistence in another quarter of the state;—for the citizens of Annapolis, at such an hour, and under such circumstances, to set up a popular outcry against you, to endeavour wantonly to wound your feelings, injure and lessen your reputation and character, and to hunt you down as one unworthy of their trust and confidence, exceeds every thing I ever read or heard of the ingratitude of mankind.

What has once been done, my friend, may be repeated. Ever since the abolition of the office of lieutenant by the factious proceedings and the miserable politics of miserable politicians, the finances and revenues of this state have taken a most desperate turn; our treasury is empty, and our faith and public engagements broke and violated; combinations formed, and it is said no taxes paid. The people feel and speak aloud of their heavy burthens, and utter bitter complaints, that the productive funds of the state are lavished on the public buildings of the city. It is not therefore very improbable that the motion may be repeated for suspending the college funds, and the former opposition again exerted against any further grant of public money to complete our steeple, or the governor's building; and perhaps we may hear at the next session, of a motion to remove the seat of government to Baltimore-town. If these questions should be again agitated, the citizens of Annapolis, perhaps, may not find in her modern idols and patriots, those resources of safety, protection and defence, they once found in you.

It has been said, my friend, but falsely said, that when removed to Baltimore-town, all your power would be exerted to remove the seat of government. Had the citizens of Annapolis consulted you on this point, had they paid you the common civility of calling upon you and learning your sentiments, they would have received the most satisfactory evidence, that you were too well affected to this city, and that those you would leave in it, even to wish it the smallest injury, much less to give it so fatal a blow. No, my friend, your heart is not made up of such vile materials; you never would have raised your hands against a city in which you had spent the prime of your life, and which had given you confidence and support for so many years; in every change and vicissitude of life, in prosperity or adversity, this city would have found you a warm and valuable friend.

But Annapolis, my friend, has now abandoned and given you up; and abandoned you in the most ignominious and insulting manner. You are now discharged from all ties and obligations to it. On your removal to Baltimore, probably, the people there may consider you as worthy of their confidence; and perhaps in the revolution of human affairs, and the dispensations of Providence, you may have it in your power to labour as successfully for that town as you have done for this city. If it should be so, I hope you will meet with a better fate; and for the honour of human nature, I hope Baltimore-town will never exhibit to the world the affecting spectacle of an old and faithful servant, insulted and disgraced by the folly, wickedness and ingratitude of his fellow citizens.

You have been abused, my friend, by a late publication; a part of its strictures has been applied to me and others. But the consciousness you feel, having "Well and faithfully done," will be a sufficient shield against all the shafts of calumny and malice; and that peculiar magnanimity of spirit which you possess, will enable you to look down with mingled pity and contempt on your adversaries and enemies.—To be abused and villified is the common fate of men of superior virtue and superior sense, and I am sure you have a better knowledge of the depravity of mankind, than to expect that a life so conspicuous as your's, and a character so distinguished as your's,—placed foremost in all deliberations, active and decisive, bold, daring, and taking the lead in all measures of moment and hazard, could possibly escape the censures and animad-