

MARYLAND GAZETTE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1786.

To the CITIZENS of ANNAPOLIS.

WHEN a political character of some consideration is known to be beten on one side by a party of men who gaze for preferment without the recommendation of intrinsic merit, and by another party on the other side who willingly would sacrifice the interest of all the world to their own, the public cannot be prevented from conceiving unfavourable impressions. There are two reflections which immediately strike the mind; in the first place we may fairly determine that the voice of truth and sincerity is banished from their society; and secondly, that men of that particular stamp would never attach themselves to any other than a person of known abilities, whom they suppose to possess a soul which would prostitute itself to unworthy purposes; with a secret gratification they view such a personage, and in truth from no other can they expect the smallest assistance towards the accomplishment of their views. A character thus situated, whose conduct is marked with the disapprobation of his fellow-citizens, will frequently remain unacquainted with their public opinions, and at the very moment that his name is sinking into contempt, the treachery of a dependant minion would teach him to believe that all goes well. There is little danger that this can ever be the fate of a good man, a moderate portion of common sense will discover the fevility of a courtier, and the uprightness of an honest heart will ever reject with scorn the base solicitor of undue favours. Honesty can only be duped by the means of its own weakness, and this alone will prove its security against such a herd of unworthies; for a character, to answer their purpose, must possess a state of abilities and a double portion of subtle artifice. Let the Delegate cast his eyes around and compare his situation with the above description, if there be a resemblance in the picture, and the delusion exists; if the opinion of the public on his conduct hath artfully been withheld, let him listen to the voice of the Citizen.

The inhabitants of Maryland have long viewed with astonishment the overbearing intolerance of the Delegate in their public councils, and ill lately they never discovered an anxiety to give the check to his ambition; but the scene is now changed, and the public efforts exerted in his decline, prove how unequal his security was to the opposition of worthy characters. You, my fellow-citizens, first exercised the virtue of denying him that testimony which every one ought to expect from the immediate witnesses of his conduct. To fill up the measure of his calamity, the electors of the senate excluded him from that station, and in their wisdom gave the appointment to men framed with that peculiar firmness of mind which will not yield to the menaces of the most daring demagogues. The Delegate looks up to this body as a barrier that can only be surmounted by sedition itself, and from his soul most severely feels the loss of that influence he expected to enjoy in conducting the civil polity of this state; in truth, the Delegate has become a mere cypher, and vents his acrimony against all who were the causes of his degradation. His last address to the Citizen is written in the language of an unhappy wretch, whose passions carry him beyond the control of reason or decency, whose very manner bears the strongest marks of disappointment and mortification.

After having spent so considerable a portion of time in public life, the Delegate ought, with his reputation for capacity, to have acquired the confidence of his country so far, that he should have had it in his power to command any post in the government. 'Tis certain he failed in his wishes to become a senator. Although the Delegate had the honour of being appointed an elector for Anne-Arundel county, the entire plan of his policy was not perfected; it was intended that his colleague from the city should have acted a part, but this was declined, the accession would have been material, and probably have made a change in things. The Citizen has not the presumption to determine whether the elector of Annapolis conceived the Delegate worthy of a senatorial appointment, but he may determine with some share of confidence that the colleague would have given his noble brother a vote; independent of this one circumstance, the Delegate had every opportunity, all the means his own wishes could sit, to insure the success of his design. The liberty of a seat among the electors was not wanting, where a formidable display of eloquence, of honour and integrity, might have been used to conciliate their esteem and confidence; the artifice of intrigue might also have been employed with some expectation of effect; 'tis well known that much policy may

be exercised in the conduct of an election, and the Delegate on that subject has had the benefit of a long experience; with all these advantages what could have been the cause of his not succeeding? 'Twas strange, 'twas passing strange, 'twas pitiful, 'twas wondrous pitiful, and yet the Delegate must submit. It is no longer given him to indulge that phantom which played upon his imagination previous to the election of senators, and cherished his fond hopes with the acquisition of power and importance. To a man of the Delegate's temper, who cannot bear even the common crosses of fortune with becoming dignity, who sinks into all the agitation of malevolence and mortifying pride, this must have been a bitter pill, and one that he must have swallowed with many a bitter exclamation. No doubt the votaries of this idol would wish to persuade their god into an opinion that retirement, that unworthy motive was the cause of his exclusion, but the characters who rejected the Delegate in that election are removed far beyond the prevalence of base prejudice; supported by the good opinion of their country, by their own virtue they set at defiance the voice of calumny, and the voice of sedition, which vainly hath published to the world that the old senate elected the new, and that a new senate took place to exclude gentlemen against whom they had no other objection than a difference of sentiment on a particular measure; their honour would disdain so contracted, so confined a policy.

As the Delegate is daily losing his consequence in public life, it would be well seriously for him to reflect whether retirement would not be more conducive to his peace of mind, than to stand forth this cypher in the political world. It will be the cause of fresh mortification to pride already wounded. If his heart does not upbraid him with guilt, if his conscience be without a plumb line, he will find the truth, the most lasting of all consolations; this will ever admire the rays of comfort to desponding virtue in retirement, 'twas this that buoyed the feet of Aramis in banishment above his fortune. But if the Delegate cannot retire from public life with these pleasing comforts, though he may glory in the success of his artifice, yet the reflection of a disturbed conscience will come at last to rob him of that peace of mind which can alone give comfort to a good man in unmerited disgrace.

But let the Delegate be at good cheer, the Citizen has it not in view to make him despair, his disappointments 'tis true are great and galling, and hope, though it be transient, will soon while it lasts. The day may yet come some five years hence to bless the Delegate with a reverse of fortune; he may regain the confidence of his country, and be a senator, if that ambition shall still remain which hath heretofore prompted him to fly with the wings and fate of leaves to that lofty station. Though much is to be wrought in the mean time the Delegate may expect that the late electors of the senate will have a considerable share of influence in the government of this state, some of the first characters were selected, and they considered nine persons at least as better qualified for the department than himself, and some of them whose capacities and knowledge of business must be esteemed inferior to the Delegate's. Before he can expect that appointment every unfavourable impression must be done away, however doubtful it is worth the trial, and if it should ever come to pass, the Citizen is warranted in feeling a persuasion that he may be considered as instrumental in its accomplishment; the merit of having first taught the Delegate a proper sense of his situation, is certainly due to his pen. This truth he must be sensible of, but his pride will never suffer him to acknowledge it.

The Citizen is under some apprehension that he shall incur the imputation of inhumanity in wounding the harmless wretch with this publication. It is not as an antagonist or with the view of being styled an adversary, that the Citizen has now taken up his pen, it is barely for the amusement and information of the Delegate, that he may know the general strain of public conversation when he becomes the topic. The Citizen has too much generosity to treat a wounded man as a foe; he hath long since learnt the liberal lesson, that no resolution can exist where there is no prospect of opposition, on the part of the Delegate there can now be none, he is too inconsiderable to rise to the dignity of being esteemed an enemy worthy of

The CITIZEN.

Annapolis, November 4, 1786.

LONDON, August 21.

THE last express that arrived from Mr. Eden at Paris (confirming the agreement of the

court of France to all the articles of the commercial alliance) brought over also a very particular letter written by the king of France to our sovereign, congratulating him on his late happy degree.

The report that the Dutch will deliver a large quantity of stock on the sterling day, is just as well founded as the story of the king of Prussia's death.

Aug 22 A letter from Leghorn says, we have just received the disagreeable news of the capture of the ship Griffin by the Algerine pirates. She sailed from that port for Barcelona, where she was to be sold, consequently was in ballast: Her crew consisted of 40 men, who, according to the letter, were stripped stark-naked, not even excepting the captain.

Besides this, and the Russian vessel mentioned in a former paper, it is added, that they have captured a very rich ship from Germany, a Genoese, several Neapolitans, and one American. On the capture of this last the letter-writer remarks, that the slavery to which the crew is condemned must be particularly grating to them, as their love of liberty an independence was so great, that they exposed themselves to the hazard of utter ruin, rather than submit to be in subordination to one of the most formidable powers in Europe, whose only aim was to foster them with care, and be their mother and protectress.

A letter from Corke says, that the St. Patrick, captain O'Callaghan, is arrived here from Leghorn, and the captain reports that he was stopped in the Straights of Gibraltar by an Algerine galley, when an officer and several of the crew boarded him, and examined his cargo and papers, and then taking some part of his provisions told the captain, as he was a subject of his Britannic majesty, he might proceed on his voyage. They questioned him whether he saw any men of war near those parts. The galley had thirty guns, and seemed to be full of men.

NEW YORK, October 21.

Extract of a letter from colonel Harmer, to the secretary at war dated at Fort Harmer, at the mouth of the Muskingum, August 4, 1786.

"I am endeavouring all in my power to conciliate the minds of the Indians and have had several of the Delaware, Chipewas, &c with me here, at Fort McIntosh, and at Fort Pitt, to pay me a friendly visit and brighten the chain. They have returned well satisfied with the good treatment they have received, and I am convinced will make a favourable report thereof to their nations on their arrival. I have sent a speech to the Delaware nation, encouraging a friendly intercourse between them and the United States. Upon the return of the Indians I shall expect particular intelligence respecting the treaty at Niagara."

Extract of a letter from lieutenant colonel Harmer, dated at Fort Harmer, Mouth of the Muskingum, September 17, 1786.

"Enclosed, be pleased to receive the information given me by captain — the person mentioned in my letter 4th of August, of several nations assembling at the Shawanoe towns with hostile intentions."

Information of captain — a trusty Indian, addressed to colonel Harmer.

"Colonel Harmer, you requested me when I saw you last, that I would tell you of every thing that passes in the Indian country; according to my promise I am now come to tell you that the Shawanoe and other Indians who went to the British council at Niagara, have returned; they say they met captains Mackie and Brant; another council they say is to be held in the Shawanoe towns, soon: Captain Brant is expected there, with six chiefs and thirty young men. Three days before I left my towns, a speech arrived from the British, informing my people that there were three vessels loaded with goods coming for us, that we might not want; I have not yet found out the business of the council at Niagara, as the Delawares did not go to it, the Shawanoes have not yet informed us; the Shawanoes have sent messengers to the Pewawatimes, Chipewas, and Tahwas; they returned, and brought with them 160 warriors: more expected daily; 200 were on the Glaze-River, which empties into the — on their way to the Shawanoe towns, where the whole were to assemble to take up the hatchet against the Long Knives; they have come to a determination to divide their force, a part will come to this place; a part to the Wheeling, and some to the Miami. The Shawanoes have invited the Delawares and Wyandots to join them, but they will not. It is expected there would assemble 1000 warriors at the Shawanoe towns from the Pewawatimes, Chipewas, Cherokees, Mingoes, Tahwas, and Twighwies; they