

ences only have been published by these defaming impostors, I have considered it but fair to bring into view the whole of the following extract from the Notes on Virginia, and also the whole of the following law, written confessedly every word of it by Jefferson.

It will thence appear, as is the fact, that this illustrious character has been called an enemy to religion, only because he has been an enemy to religious establishments. It will thence appear that the charge of deism is a calumny founded on a falsehood, a scandal maintained by nothing but the frauds of misrepresentation.

A VOTER.

Extract from the Notes on Virginia, page 264.—London edition.

"This is a summary view of that religious slavery, under which a people have been willing to remain, who have lavished their lives and fortunes for the establishment of their civil freedom. The error seems not sufficiently eradicated; that the operations of the mind, as well as the acts of the body, are subject to the coercion of the laws. But our rulers can have authority over such natural rights only as we have submitted to them. The rights of conscience we never submitted, we could not submit. We are answerable for them to our God. The legitimate powers of government extend to such acts only as are injurious to others. But it does me no injury for my neighbour to say there are twenty Gods, or no God. It neither picks my pocket nor breaks my leg. If it be said, his testimony in a court of justice cannot be relied on, reject it then, and be the stigma on him. Constraint may make him worse by making him a hypocrite, but it will never make him a truer man. It may fix him obstinately in his errors, but will not cure them. Reason and free inquiry are the only effectual agents against error. Give a loose to them, they will support the true religion, by bringing every false one to their tribunal, to the test of their investigation. They are the natural enemies of error, and of error only. Had not the Roman government permitted free inquiry, christianity could never have been introduced. Had not free inquiry been indulged, at the era of the reformation, the corruptions of christianity could not have been purged away."

LAW OF VIRGINIA.

An act for establishing religious freedom.

[Passed the 16th of December, 1785.]

I. WHEREAS Almighty God hath created the mind free; that all attempts to influence it by temporal punishments or burthens, or by civil incapacitations, tend only to beget habits of hypocrisy and meanness, and are a departure from the plan of the Holy Author of our religion, who being Lord both of body and mind, yet chose not to propagate it by coercions on either, as was in his Almighty power to do; that the impious presumption of legislators and rulers, civil as well as ecclesiastical, who being themselves but fallible and unassisted men, have assumed dominion of the faith of others, setting up their own opinions and modes of thinking as the only true and infallible, and as such endeavouring to impose them on others, hath established and maintained false religions over the greatest part of the world, and through all time; that to compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves, is sinful and tyrannical; that even the forcing him to support this or that teacher of his own religious persuasion, is depriving him of the comfortable liberty of giving his contributions to the particular pastor, whose morals he would make his pattern, and whose powers he feels most persuasive to righteousness, and is withdrawing from the ministry those temporary rewards, which proceeding from an approbation of their personal conduct, are an additional incitement to earnest and unremitting labours for the instruction of mankind; that our civil rights have no dependence on our religious opinions, any more than our opinions in physics or geometry; that therefore the proscribing any citizen as unworthy the public confidence, by laying upon him an incapacity of being called to offices of trust and emolument, unless he profess or renounce this or that religious opinion, is depriving him injuriously of those privileges and advantages, to which, in common with his fellow-citizens, he has a natural right; that it tends only to corrupt the principles of that religion it is meant to encourage, by bribing with a monopoly of worldly honours and emoluments; those who will externally profess and conform to it; that though indeed these are criminal who do not withstand such temptation, yet neither are those innocent who lay the bait in their way; that to suffer the civil magistrate to intrude his powers into the field of opinion, and to restrain the profession or propagation of principles on supposition of their ill tendency, is a dangerous fallacy, which at once destroys all religious liberty, because he being of course judge of that tendency will make his opinions the rule of judgment; and approve or condemn the sentiments of others only as they shall square with or differ from his own; that it is time enough for the rightful purposes of civil government, for its officers to interfere when principles break out into overt acts against peace and good order; and finally, that truth is great and will prevail if left to herself; that she is the proper and sufficient antagonist to error; and has nothing to fear from the conflict, unless by human interposition, disarmed of her natural weapons, free argument and debate, errors ceasing to be dangerous when it is permitted freely to contradict them:

II. Be it enacted by the general assembly, That no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place, or ministry; whatsoever, nor shall be enforced, restrained, molested or burthened in his body or goods, nor shall otherwise suffer on account of his religious opinions or beliefs; but that all men shall be free to profess, and by argument to main-

tain, their opinions in matters of religion, and that the same shall in no wise diminish, enlarge or affect their civil capacities.

III. And though we well know that this assembly, elected by the people for the ordinary purposes of legislation only, have no power to restrain the acts of succeeding assemblies, constituted with powers equal to our own, and that therefore to declare this act to be irrevocable, would be of no effect in law; yet we are free to declare, and do declare, that the rights hereby asserted, are of the natural rights of mankind, and that if any act shall be hereafter passed to repeal the present, or to narrow its operation, such act will be an infringement of natural right.

Messrs. Green,

YOU will please to publish the few following queries for the solution of Jacobinic ingenuity.

Yours, &c. DETECTOR.

1st. WHEN a man justifies the sentiments of another, does he not thereby make them his own, and become accountable to the public for their tendency?

2d. When a man is zealous in his recommendations, and industrious in his endeavours to procure subscribers for, and increase the circulation of, a factious and disorganizing news paper, should he not be considered as possessing the same principles with its editor?

3d. Is the man who possesses the same political principles with the seditious editor of "The American," and who acts as its puffer, a proper channel through which the sentiments of the people of this district should be conveyed?

4th. Is there not a flagrant inconsistency in the conduct of that man who publicly declares, that he thinks Mr. Adams a good man, acting from the purest motives, and yet exerts himself in warm endeavours to ruin the reputation of, and withdraw the esteem of the people from Mr. Adams, by encouraging and circulating publications in which he is vitely, rancorously, and falsely abused?

A continuation of Mr. Duvall's Address in our next.

A GENTLEMAN wishes to purchase ten or twelve likely young NEGROES, for his own use, for which a generous price, in CASH, will be given, if application is made, on or before Friday night next, to Mr. JAMES WEST. August 27, 1800.

COMMITTED to my custody as runaways; on the 28th of July, 1800, a negro woman called MINTA, about 16 years of age, dark complexion, says she is the property of SARAH BOWEN, of Colchester, Virginia, and hired this year to John Bowen, of Calvert county, Maryland. On the 29th, a negro woman, same colour, named BETTY, about 20 years of age, says she is the property of BASIL BROOKES, of Calvert county, Maryland. Also, on the 17th of August, 1800, two negro men, named PHILIP and GEORGE, as the property of Dr. AUSTIN SMITH, of Alexandria, Virginia, but since commitment state themselves to be the property of HOLDEN HUDSON, of Matthews county, Virginia, and formerly belonging to col. Churchill, of Middlesex, and their names BEN BROWN, and LEWIS, they are of the following description, both stout men, dark colour, the former about 35, and the latter about 40, years of age, have a variety of clothing. Notice is hereby given, that if not taken away by their owners they will be sold for their fees, according to law.

THOMAS A. DYSON, Sheriff

Charles county.

Charles county, August 19, 1800.

THE subscriber begs leave to inform his friends and customers, that he has removed to the tannery in the city of Annapolis, lately occupied by Mr. JOHN HYDE, where he means to carry on the tanning business in all its various branches. He is now prepared to receive hides to tan from those who please to favour him with their custom, and tan the same on the following terms, to wit: Hides at fifteen shillings each, kip skins at eleven shillings and three-pence each, calf-skins at five shillings and seven-pence half-penny.

The subscriber, from a long experience in the business, flatters himself that his work will be rendered pleasing to his customers.

WALTER W. NORMAN.

I shall have a quantity of upper and foal leather for sale by the last of September next. W. W. N.

A LIST of LETTERS remaining in the Post-Office Lower-Marlborough, which will be sent to the General Post-Office as dead letters, if not taken up before the first day of October next.

RICHARD IRELAND, jun. 3, Richard Ireland, Sheriff, William L. Chew, 2, John Mitchell, 2, Sutton I. Weems, 1, John H. Chew, Thomas Reynolds, Joseph Wilson, William J. Duvall, Henry T. Compton, Samuel L. Smith, Ann Cheston, Mary Hardesty, Mr. Parent, Tobias Fisher, sen. William Ward, Thomas Mandell, Edmond Trafford.

Persons sending for any of the above letters are requested at the same time to send the money, or they will not be delivered. August 13, 1800. I. NORFOLK, D. P. M.

Negroes for Sale.

To be SOLD, for a term of years,

THE following NEGROES, to wit: a man, about twenty years of age, accustomed to the business of a plantation, to be sold for the term of seven years; a boy, between eleven and twelve years of age; for the term of fifteen years, and a woman, accustomed to domestic services, for the term of two years. Inquire of the Printers.

NOTICE.

THE subscriber, of Anne-Arundel county, having obtained from the orphans court of said county, in Maryland, letters of administration on the personal estate of AARON WELCH, late of said county, deceased, all persons having claims against the said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, on or before the 20th day of February next; they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of the said estate. Given under my hand and seal this 20th day of August, 1800.

AARON WELCH, Administrator.

In CHANCERY, August 15, 1800.

ON application to the chancellor, by petition, in writing, of EDWARD BOTELER, of Prince-George's county, praying the benefit of the act for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors, passed at the last session, on the terms therein mentioned, and a schedule of his property, and a list of his creditors, so far as he can ascertain the same, on oath, being annexed to his petition, and the chancellor being satisfied, by competent testimony, that the said Edward Boteler is, and at the time of passing the said act was, a citizen of this State, and of the United States, and the said Edward Boteler, at the time of presenting his petition, having produced to the chancellor the assent in writing of so many of his creditors as have due to them, according to the list aforesaid, the amount of two thirds of the debts due by him at the time of passing the said act; it is thereupon adjudged and ordered, that the said Edward Boteler, by causing a copy of this order to be inserted once in each of three successive weeks in the Maryland Gazette, before the fifth day of September next, give notice to his creditors to appear in the chancery office, at eleven o'clock, on the eleventh day of September next, for the purpose of recommending some person to be trustee for their benefit, on the said Edward Boteler's then and there taking the oath prescribed for delivering up his property.

Tell. SAMUEL HARVEY HOWARD, Reg. Cur. Can.

CAME to Mr. JOSEPH PEMBERTON's plantation, on West river, last November, a red heifer, has no mark. The owner is desired to prove property, pay charges, and take her away. August 13, 1800. JOHN CHEW.

NOTICE.

I HEREBY intend to petition the legislature of Maryland for an act of insolvency, at the meeting of the next general assembly. BARTON WATHEN, of Charles county.

THIS is to give notice, that the subscriber hath obtained from the orphans court of Charles county, in Maryland, letters of administration on the personal estate of LEVIN SOTHORON, late of Charles county, deceased, all persons having claims against the said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, on or before the 28th of January, 1801, next, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate. Given under my hand this 28th of July, 1800.

THOMAS L. SOTHORON, Executor.

The subscriber has for SALE,

A FEW elegant prints of THOMAS JEFFERSON, Esq; vice-president of the United States, in handsome gilt frames, ditto the WASHINGTON FAMILY, dressing glasses, tea caddies, portable writing desks, gentlemen's chests of tools, plate baskets lined with tin, house bells, chamber lamps, with wicks for burning in the night, gilt oval frames for pictures, boxes of paints for drawing, black lead and camel hair pencils, files, billiard-tacks, wood-saws, wire senders, maps of Maryland, and a variety of house-hold furniture. JOHN SHAW.

Annapolis, August 6, 1800.

Twenty Dollars Reward.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in Anne-Arundel county, near the Fork of Patuxent, on Saturday the 2d of August, a negro man named LUKE, about 22 years of age, 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, remarkably black, stout, active, and well made, shews his teeth very much when he talks; the said fellow was raised in Annapolis by Mrs. Gaither, and was bred a chimney sweeper; had on when he went away, an osnabrig shirt and trousers, but I have every reason to believe he has changed his cloaths; he has a mother living in St. Mary's county and may probably make that way. The above reward will be paid for bringing him home, or securing him in any goal, so that I get him again, and all reasonable charges, paid by PHILEMON BROWN.

August 4, 1800.

Eight Dollars Reward.

RAN away from the subscriber, on the 13th inst. a negro man by the name of PERRY, 20 years of age, 5 feet 3 or 4 inches high, of a yellowish complexion, slender made, and when spoke to replies in a pert manner; had on when he went away, a nankeen coat, mullin jacket, nankeen breeches, white shirt, blue and white hose, old shoes, and old hat. I expect he will make towards Annapolis, Baltimore, or the Federal City, as he some time past endeavoured to get off. Any person apprehending the said fellow shall receive the above reward.

JAMES HIGHT.

Calvert county, July 22, 1800.