

**NOTICE TO STATE DEBTORS.**

**T**HE agent requests all debtors to the State of Maryland to discharge their respective balances on or before the first day of March next, immediately thereafter all lawful means will be taken to enforce payment, and all penalties incurred by the delinquent clerks and sheriffs will be exacted. This notice, it is sincerely hoped, will be attended to, it will save the debtors a considerable expence, and the officer the disagreeable task of enforcing the collection. Process will certainly be commenced, without respect to persons, on the second day of March next against every delinquent.

**HENRY H. HARWOOD, Agent.**

Annapolis, January 5, 1801.

*An Act prescribing the form of the bond to be hereafter given by the clerks of the several counties of this State.*

**W**HEREAS large sums of money are paid into the hands of the clerks of the several counties annually, under the provisions of existing laws, and the bond heretofore prescribed to be given by said clerks does not secure the payment of the same to the treasurer of the several shires of this State; therefore,

**II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,** That hereafter the form of the bond to be executed by the clerks of the several counties of this State shall be in manner and form following, to wit: "Know all men by these presents, that we, A. B. C. D. and G. H. of \_\_\_\_\_ county, are held and firmly bound unto the State of Maryland in the full and just sum of five thousand pounds current money, to be paid to the said State of Maryland; to the which payment well and truly to be made and done, we bind ourselves, our and each of our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals. Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year \_\_\_\_\_. The condition of the above obligation is such, that if the above bound A. B. whilst he shall continue in the office of clerk of \_\_\_\_\_ county, shall at his own proper cost and charges, find a supply of good and sufficient record books, necessary for the entering up of all matters and things relating to such office, or shall and will make, or cause to be made and entered, true, legal and perfect records and entries, according to the truth and nature of the matter or thing requiring to be entered or recorded, and shall duly and carefully look after, sustain, preserve, repair and maintain, all the several books, papers and records, now being and remaining in the said office, as also all those that from time to time, during his continuance in the said office, shall be added thereunto, in such manner, as that in case of death, or that he shall be legally dismissed from officiating longer in said office, or that in case he shall remove or resign, he the said A. B. his executors or administrators, shall surrender and deliver up, or cause to be surrendered and delivered up, to the next person who shall succeed him in said office, all the papers and record books now being in the said office, in good order and repair, as also all such other papers and record books which shall be by him added, in like good order and repair, with the records and entries faithfully, legally and truly made up and entered, during the time he hath officiated in the said clerk's office, without favour or affection, but according to the truth and the nature of the thing, and shall well and faithfully pay over to the treasurer of the \_\_\_\_\_ shire all sums of money received by him for the use of the State under the provisions of any law now existing, or which may hereafter be passed, in the manner and at the time limited by such acts, without fraud or further delay, and shall well and truly account for the same with the officer or person or persons authorized to receive the same, and the duty of his office, and all the other duties of his said office, by law imposed, legally, duly and faithfully shall discharge, according to law, and the true intent and meaning of the act of assembly in such cases made and provided, that then the above obligation to be void and of none effect, or else to remain in full force and virtue in law."

**III. And be it enacted,** That from and after the tenth day of July next, it shall not be lawful for any clerk of any county in this State to receive the fees of the clerk's office, until such county clerk have entered into bond as aforesaid, with good, able and sufficient securities as aforesaid, being persons of visible and landed estates within the State of Maryland.

**IV. And be it enacted,** That if any clerk of any county shall neglect or refuse to pay into the treasury, or to the agent of the State, any monies of the said State in his hands, at the time limited by law, and to render and settle his accounts with the said treasurer, when thereto required by the agent of the State, it shall and may be lawful for the respective county courts, or the respective general courts, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, upon motion in behalf of the State, and on producing a stated account, signed by the treasurer, of the sum of money or claim of the State due and in arrear from any such clerk, to order a judgment to be entered for the penalty of such clerk's bond, to be released on the payment of such sum or sums of money as shall appear to be due, and costs, and an immediate execution to be awarded against the person or property of such clerk to compel payment of said monies and costs; provided that a copy of such account, signed by the respective treasurers as aforesaid, and notice of such intended motion, be delivered, in writing, to such clerk, or left at his last place of abode at least twenty days previous to the sitting of the term at which such application shall be intended, and that proof thereof be made to the satisfaction of the court; and provided also, that if such clerk shall, in person or by attorney, controvert the demand, and desires a jury to be impanelled to ascertain the sum of money really due

and payable, the said court are empowered and authorized to direct a jury to be immediately impanelled, and charged to try and ascertain an issue, whether such clerk be chargeable with and liable to pay any and what sum or sums of money to the said State, and the said court, upon such verdict of the jury, shall and are hereby empowered to direct judgment to be entered for the penalty of such clerk's bond, to be released upon the payment of the sum or sums of money so found due by said verdict, and costs, upon which there shall be no writ of error, superseas or appeal, and to award execution thereon as upon all other cases of judgments had and obtained in said court.

**V. And be it enacted,** That if any clerk of any county, upon whose bond judgment shall be entered as aforesaid, and execution thereupon issued, shall not faithfully and pay, or cause to be satisfied and paid, such judgment and execution to the respective treasurer, or the agent of the State, for two successive terms to which the said execution shall be made returnable, the said default shall be and the same is hereby declared to be misbehaviour in office within the meaning of the constitution, and may be prosecuted as such.

**VI. And be it enacted,** That if any clerk, who hath received public money before the passage of this act, shall neglect to pay over the same to the treasurers of the western and eastern shires respectively, before the first day of September next, such neglect shall be deemed, taken and considered, to be a misbehaviour in office.

**NEW-YORK, January 30.**

Sunday morning last, between the hours of one and two o'clock, the inhabitants of Springfield (Mass.) were alarmed by the cry of fire; which proved to be one of the buildings belonging to the public armoury on Federal Hill. The building (occupied as a filing and stocking shop) was entirely consumed, together with a great part of the utensils used in these branches of the business, and about five hundred stand of arms, notwithstanding the utmost exertions of the inhabitants to extinguish the flames. The loss is estimated at about 18,000 dollars.

January 31.

Captain Cook, of the ship Diana, arrived here yesterday, in 24 days from Jeremie, informs us, that Touffaint was on the eve of a war with the Spaniards at St. Domingo. He had put under requisition 30 vessels, amongst which were a number of Americans, for the embarkation of troops.

The duty of 20 per cent. (which we have mentioned in a former paper) was in operation when the Diana sailed.

Captain Everett, of the ship Warren, arrived here yesterday from Amsterdam, touched at Orfordness, at the mouth of the Thames, on the 11th ult. but could get no papers, nor did he hear any news. It was the opinion at Amsterdam, that there would be a general peace in the spring.—This was also the opinion of several commanders of English ships whom capt. E. spoke in the Channel.

On the trial of the persons who were convicted a few weeks ago, for altering the denomination of the notes of the Manhattan Company, it became known, that some of the substance employed by them in destroying the ink, was in the custody of the justices of the police. The attorney-general, in a conversation with the professor of Chemistry, promised to send him some of it for examination; and since the passing of the sentence upon the offenders, Mr. Remsen, the cashier of the Manhattan Company, has put some of it into Dr. Mitchell's hands. A liquid made from the material, is found to efface the characters of printer's ink, without damaging the paper, in a short time. The composition and nature of this singular agent have been detected; and will lead to a composition of ink for printing, which will be proof against it. The destruction of writing ink by oxygenated muriatic acid is well known; but the decomposition of printer's ink is by a different process, and upon a different principle.

February 2.

*Extract of a letter from St. Thomas, dated 7th January, 1801.*

"An advice boat arrived at Basseterre from Rochefort in 36 days passage. She brought the treaty concluded with America, which was immediately proclaimed at Basseterre. The planters of Guadeloupe are all recalled to their homes. Mr. Lescalier, very well known in the West-Indies, and on whom great encomiums are bestowed, is nominated prefect for Guadeloupe. He was commissary ordonnateur at Grenada, under the old government.

"Another vessel in 24 days from Bourdeaux arrived on the 23d. December, with 70 passengers, all Guadeloupe planters. The hope of a general peace was considered as founded on the strongest probabilities.

"The gentleman who writes from St. Thomas is Mr. De la Saliniere, distinguished by his probity; the same who last year was the first to announce to us the favourable change wrought by Buonaparte."

Arrived yesterday, sloop Nancy, Hoyt, Charleston, in 6 days. On the 29th January, spoke schooner Naturalist, Smith, 14 days out from Port Republican, bound to Norfolk, and three of the hands sick with a fever. Captain S. informed captain Hoyt, that gen. Rigaud's party were assassinating the negroes to the number of 100 in a day.

By the Nancy we have received Charleston papers to the 26th January, inclusive. They mention the arrival there of the ship Greyhound, Pratt, in 38 days from Gibraltar, and the barque Neptune, Dryburg, in 39 days from Liverpool. Captain Pratt informs that he was in Leghorn at the time the

French took possession of the place. There was no contest, the French being too numerous for the Austrians to contend with; and the utmost order and harmony succeeded. At first, some few individuals, who had been oppressed and persecuted by the Tuscan government, for their attachment to the French cause, indicated a revengeful disposition, and threatened severe resentment; but they were imprisoned, and proclamation was immediately issued by the commandant, setting forth that they had come to protect, not to destroy. The only injury suffered by the mercantile interests, on account of the change of matters in the place, was, the payment of a duty of two per cent. imposed by the chamber of commerce of the city, by way of a compromise with the French, for not searching strictly for enemy's property. On the payment of this duty, and of one per cent. imposed by the Tuscan government under the pretext of convoy duty, neutral vessels were permitted to depart freely, with their cargoes.

In Leghorn, on the 22d of November, the general opinion was, that an armistice between the French and Austrians, of the expiration of which notice had been given, would be renewed, in consequence of a determined expectation, that the emperor of Russia had determined to act again in concert with the Austrians and English. But in Gibraltar, late in December, the last accounts from England had induced a belief that the emperor of Russia would act rather in concert with the French.

Captain Dryburg left Liverpool on the 4th December, and brought no papers. He mentions that accounts were published in England, previous to his departure, of the emperor of Russia (the king of Prussia probably) having entered the electorate of Haver with an army of 60,000 men.

**PHILADELPHIA, January 30.**

From Mr. George Roberts, one of the supercargoes of the Eclipse, the following information has been received—

Ship Eclipse, capt. Jones, from Calcutta, sailed from the Sand Heads the 18th of October, in company with the ship Rebecca, Pitt, of and for Baltimore, and brig \_\_\_\_\_, of and for New-York, under convey of an English frigate, sent out for the purpose of recapturing the Kent, a valuable East-Indiaman, which had been captured by the La Confiance, Sircouff, (a French vessel of war.) The frigate came in sight of the La Confiance, and obliged her to throw all her guns overboard. The Eclipse parted from the frigate at night while they were still in chase, and separated from the two American vessels off the Sand Heads.

Captain Jones, we understand, spoke a vessel off the Sand Heads from Puli-Penang, by whom he was informed, that Batavia had surrendered to the 12th regiment of British infantry and 5 frigates, sent from Madras for that purpose. It is understood, that the inhabitants of Batavia, dissatisfied with their government, had invited the British to this measure, and that the conquest was of course made without a struggle.

**COMMERICAL.**

*From Bourdeaux, Nov. 12.* Accounts last night from Bayonne, mention the arrival of nine American vessels at St. Sebastians. They will have hard fate, as all communication between Spain and France is interdicted. The French government has passed a law, by which all tobacco, not imported in French ships, shall pay a duty of 33 franks per quintal.

January 31.

*Extract of a letter from captain Towers, to his owner in this city, dated Kingston, December 20th, 1800.*

"I arrived here yesterday, after a boisterous passage of 19 days. On the 16th inst. east end of Jamaica bearing S. S. W. distance 12 leagues, fell in with the British ship of war America, captain Bingham, of 64 guns, ashore on the Formages or Ais, with her main and mizen-mast gone, 6 feet water in the hold, all the guns and provisions thrown overboard, boats insufficient to take off the crew, amounting to 450 souls, and expecting every moment that all on board would perish. By the assistance of my brig, anchors, and great exertions got the ship off, and three days afterwards saw her safe in Jamaica. My brig has been injured by getting the America off; but the captain promises me a handsome reward from government—however that will avail nothing; for without any compensation the saving of 450 men from destruction, will always prove a pleasing gratification to me."

February 2.

If Great-Britain and Russia should unfortunately be involved in hostilities, it is to be expected, that our commerce with the latter will be, if not wholly suspended, considerably restricted. This consideration, when it is also known that we have not at present in our store-houses as much hemp as will answer the ordinary demand of more than three or four months, ought to attract the immediate attention of congress. To promote the culture of an article so important to a commercial nation, it is suggested, whether the offering a bounty would not operate successfully.

*A gentleman in New-York has written to his friend in this city the following information which he received from a very respectable source in Guadeloupe.*

A vessel had arrived at Point-Petre, on the 31st December, from Bourdeaux, in 24 days passage, with 70 passengers, 67 of whom are young Creoles, formerly belonging to the island. This vessel brought a decree recalling all the emigrants who had formerly left Guadeloupe.