

## MARYLAND GAZETTE,

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

TUESDAY, April 28, 1747.

Mr. GREEN,

Be pleas'd to insert the following Lines in your next Gazette, if you will oblige, SIR, Yours, &c. *in the Corner.*

Here have been so many schemes propos'd, and arguments urged, in regard to the enacting an Inspection Law among us, that unless I was well assured that I am on the right side of the question, I should think myself at a loss what to say on this head. I must confess Mr. Mercator is right in saying, *To form right judgment on any subject, we should consider it in all it's parts*; which I have often done, and cannot find that an Inspection Law will be of so great a benefit to the province, as he and the others have set forth; but rather, in my opinion (unless some particular persons, must be a destruction to the country general. It is well known how much the people of this province are indebted at this time, that we have great occasion of lessening our taxes, instead of increasing them, which an Inspection Law will greatly multiply them; for the least sum that can be reckon'd, that will be for the first year on an Inspection Law, will not amount to less than 17000*l.* which is much too great a sum, if we consider the small advantage we shall reap, and the many inconveniences we shall be put to, by it.

It cannot be denied, but that our staple loudly calls for a Regulation Law, to destroy the trashy Tobacco; but pray let us think, and wish that our legislature may fall upon some other method than by an Inspection Law: Therefore, if I may be permitted to give my vote on a Regulation Law on Tobacco, would with heart and hand subscribe for a Burning and Shipping Tobacco-Law; which will as effectually destroy the trashy tobacco, as any law that can be propos'd; and that too with a mere trifle of charge to the country, so inconsiderable, that very few, or none, but what would pay it with a great deal of alacrity; for the whole charge that will accrue yearly on a Burning Tobacco-Law, will amount to no more (allowing 1000 taxables) than to the sum of 900*l.*

I hope the poorer sort of people among us are to be regarded well as the better sort; then let us consider how many of them are oblig'd to rent land; let us likewise consider too, what yearly rent is that they pay, which is generally 800*lb.* of tobacco. Well, let us suppose a man has a wife and several children to maintain (which is the case of many among us), and supposing him to make 1000*lb.* Top Tobacco, and 500*lb.* good Second Tobacco, which will be a good crop; when he comes to pay his landlord for his rent, he will have left 200*lb.* Top Tobacco, and 500*lb.* of Second Tobacco, to maintain his family; which is but a small quantity: But now let us suppose, that if we had an Inspection Law, what would he have to maintain his family? Why, he would have but 200*lb.* Top Tobacco, because his 500*lb.* Second Tobacco must be destroy'd; which, at the prices Tobacco sells at now, the Top 12*s.* 6*d.* per cent. and the Second at 8*s.* per cent. will procure him 3*l.* 5*s.* whereas, if he had but the 200*lb.* Top Tobacco, allowing it to pay for 16*s.* 8*d.* per cent. he would only have 1*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to support his family; which would be destroying the man of above half his profit, that he would get on a whole crop; because, if his Trash was destroy'd, his Second would advance in price, as well as his Top Tobacco. It is observ'd by some, that many persons have great quantities of Trash Tobacco by them, and that 150*lb.* of Tobacco a taxable could not be sufficient to destroy the whole Trash; but how easy is it to remedy that, by only burning a large quantity for the first or second year, and 150*lb.* the years following; which, I

know is as much as is generally made a taxable. Pray what is the intent of an Inspection Law, but to destroy the trashy Tobacco? and if a Burning Law will do it as effectually, why should any one be against it, when the expence will be so trifling to the country?

Some will say, that the trading people will be greatly advantaged by an Inspection Law (but I hope we are not to consider them alone), and that they will give an advanced price for our Tobacco, because it will have the Inspector's stamp on the hogheads: What, can't the merchants get Receivers that will do them as much justice as the Inspectors? Surely, equally as just and honest.

I cannot think Mr. Mercator is right in his calculation, in saying that *Virginia Oronoko Tobacco* nets to the shipper 6*l.* per hoghead, at an average; for suppose every hoghead, at an average, turns out 1000 nett at the scale, which is a good weight, we shall find, if strictly enquired into, that the *Virginia Oronoko Tobacco* does not exceed, at an average, above two pence farthing per *lb.*; that it can nett to the shipper but 4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per hoghead, allowing 5*l.* to be the charge on every hoghead of Tobacco that gets to Market; so that the shipper falls short 1*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per hoghead of what he asserts: And if we have a Burning and Shipping Law, I make no doubt but our Tobacco will advance so far as to nett us 5*l.* per hoghead, which will be a good living price. That upon the whole, as I said before, that our province is so greatly indebted, and our taxes want lessening instead of increasing, which they are likely to do when our public levy comes to be laid, without the addition of an Inspection Law; that I hope our wise Representatives will not so much as mention the name of an Inspection Law in the House of Assembly, but enact a Burning and Shipping Law, which, I am well assured, will be to the general satisfaction of far the greatest part of the people of this province.

HANOVER, December 30.

WE still continue to talk here, and that too with an air of confidence, of a marriage between his Royal Highness the duke of Cumberland, and her Royal Highness the princess Amelia, sister to the king of Prussia.

Nice, December 23. On the 11th instant at noon, the Genoese governor of Savona offered to capitulate, and immediately consented to deliver up the place, and the garrison as prisoners of war. Upon which articles were drawn up, and signed by both parties, and the Piedmontese grenadiers were put in possession of one of the gates. Col. Butler is arriv'd here, having been dispatched from the Bochetta by marquis Botta to his court, in order to concert measures for recovering Genoa.

Extract from the Paris A-la-main, January 16.

The court has received advice from Naples, that the king of Spain has confirm'd to the king of the two Sicilies his absolute attachment to the Bourbon interest. By letters from the Low countries we hear that the Allied army has orders to assemble at Maestricht, and as soon as they receive their artillery they will march to Antwerp; but there are dispositions forming to check their enterprizes. Great armaments are making in our ports for a new expedition against Great Britain. M. Belleisle is marching towards the enemy, his army is compos'd of 88 battalions and 51 squadrons, exclusive of the Spaniards. Ours and the Spanish troops are embark'd for Genoa, and will march against the Austrians, and put general Brown between two fires. In the skirmish between the vanguard of general Brown's army and the rear of M. Belleisle's, which was compos'd of 15000 men,