

THE  
**MARYLAND GAZETTE,**  
 No. 112.

*Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.*

TUESDAY, June 16, 1747.

Mr. Green, By inserting the following in your GAZETTE, you will oblige, Yours, &c. J. and B. Meanwell.

*The Interest of MARYLAND further considered: Or, A LAW of INSPECTION supported by Calculation.*

R. Q. has said, *Maryland* being much indebted at present, an Inspection Law will be the destruction and ruin of the country; in answer to which, two things should carefully be remarked; one is; That the present debts of the country, I mean the great and ruining ones, are not Tobacco debts, but Money debts; now the Law proposed is, I think, the only one that ever will, or can, pay Money debts: The other is a hint I once had from a gentleman in *Virginia*, relating to their Inspecting Law's taking place; it was said there, that this Law had ruined many families; his observation was, That the disease was oblitinate and far gone, and had seized a great part of the country, before the remedy was provided; that many of those who afterwards failed, had got the distemper formerly, tho' it did not appear upon them 'til after the remedy was found; but then, says he, tho' the remedy was powerful, it had not time to operate.

MERCATOR has said, and Q. has agreed to it, That to form a right judgment on any subject, we should consider it in all it's parts;—now, as Tobacco was the matter of their subject, why may we not say, *That to form a right judgment on a hoghead of Tobacco, it should be uncof'd, view'd, consider'd, and well Inspected, in all it's parts;* especially if we suspect the Packer to have as much dexterity in his way, as Q.'s cousin Q. B. seems to have.—Is not Mr. Q. both for and against Mercator's proposition?—This may perhaps be the reason of his saying, *That he is well assured, that he is on the right side of the question;* since he who is on both, may be well assured, that he is on the right side.

I OWN myself a friend of Mercator, because I believe he is a valuable and useful member of society; however, I shall leave Mr. Q. and his poor man, who has got a wife and many small children to maintain, with other poorer sort of people among us, as well as many of the better sort, in Mercator's hands, who will, by honest and fair means, endeavour to do himself justice; for if he should not like an Unimped'd Staple, he will throw the trouble, the charge, and risque, upon Mr. Q. and his friends, whether poorer or better sort; and oblige them to *scip and draw;* and if this should happen to fail of success, as it has sometimes done, if I am rightly informed, then Mercator must fly to the Mortgage and the Bill of Sale, upon the lands, negroes, goods, and chattels.—These, be it known unto you, O Q. in a Corner, are the blessed effects of your *No. Inspection Law.*

AS the following Extract is genuine, which makes our case very melancholy, we judge it will be no improper preface to our Calculations.

*Extract of a Letter to J. and B. Meanwell, dated May 13, 1747.*

I AM still looking out for a purchaser, for what Tobacco I have got ready. I offer it at 10s. per hundred, to be deliver'd at a landing, but as yet have found no buyer;—what will things come to! Futurity is dreadful!—How miserable the state of *Maryland* Staple, when heavy Tobacco at a landing cannot bring us 5l. Current money a hoghead!—My friend, Mr. A.—, calls the scrub Tobaccos, which have undone us, the *Scap Goat*; for therein, says he, lie the sins of the people. I will venture to foretell, says my friend, that no state of humiliation we can lie under will avert the wrath of Heaven, unless this *Scap Goat* be offer'd up a *flaming sacrifice to Public Justice*; without this, Bankruptcy, Jails, and Beggary, will be our fate! That such a Law will, in time, be pass'd in the Province, I make not the least doubt; but then, as Mr. A. B. has very well shewn, it may come too late to save us.—How greatly to be lamented, if truths so plain and self-evident do not appear so to all, especially to those who have it in their power to save their Staple and their Country from ruin!—On such occasions one cannot help calling to mind the old saying, *Quos Jupiter vult perdere, prius dementat.*

IN the following calculations, we suppose 35000 hogheads of Tobacco to be made in the Province, *communibus annis*; that a fifth, or 7000 of that number, shall be destroyed; then only 28000 hogheads shall pass Inspection.

THE advance of 1/8th of a penny per pound makes 9s. Sterling, by supposing each hoghead, at an average, to turn out 864 subtil pounds. If then a fifth, or 7000 of 35000 hogheads, were destroyed, which is perhaps nearly the quantity of bad Tobacco sent to market; What will the remaining 28000 hogheads sell at per pound, at an average, more than 35000 hogheads did before the *French* war? Here we are to consider, that a fifth being destroyed, will not only improve our Staple, but will prevent a glut in the market. We shall answer this question, by supposing they will turn out 3/8ths, 1/2, 5/8ths, 3/4ths, 7/8ths, or 1 penny, per pound, more than they did before the *French* war; and so leave every one to form a judgment upon the matter according to his pleasure, and to take what calculation he likes best, and what he apprehends to be the most probable; We shall only say, that by comparing the *Maryland* and *Virginia* London market prices together, it appears to us, that the 3/8ths, or 3/4ths per pound, come nearest the truth; and if so, *Maryland* will gain yearly fifty thousand pounds Sterling, by passing a Law for inspecting her Tobaccos.

LET us next find what the 7000 hogheads, we propose shall be destroyed, formerly brought us; here we shall suppose the 35000 hogheads, before the *French* war, at an average, turned out near 3l. per hoghead, which makes 7000 turn out 21000l. Sterling. Let us now see what the Province will gain upon each of these suppositions; we begin with 3/8ths; and as every 8th is 9s. we say,

Hbs. per lb.	per Hbd.	£. Sterling.	£. Sterling.	£. Sterling.
28000	3/8ths	is 1 07 0	inde 37800 0 0	from which deduct 21000 0 0
28000	1/2	is 1 16 0	inde 50400 0 0	from which deduct 21000 0 0
28000	5/8ths	is 2 05 0	inde 63000 0 0	from which deduct 21000 0 0
28000	3/4ths	is 2 14 0	inde 75600 0 0	from which deduct 21000 0 0
28000	7/8ths	is 3 03 0	inde 88200 0 0	from which deduct 21000 0 0
28000	1 d.	is 3 12 0	inde 100800 0 0	from which deduct 21000 0 0

If it shall be said, the 7000 hogheads are reckon'd too low, when valued at 3l. per hoghead, at an average, we shall suppose they turned out at near 3l. 10s. this will make but 3500l. difference in the calculations.