

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

WEDNESDAY, April 13, 1748.

Mr. GREEN,

Desire you will be pleas'd to insert the following Piece in your Gazette, as soon as it suits your Convenience. Tho' the Author is a Native of Maryland; yet, as he pretends himself more inclin'd to descend from British Ancestors, and seems to apply to the Sens and Prejudices of the Vulgar, he chuses to subscribe himself
AMERICANO-BRITANNUS.

Stadious he sat, with all his Books around,
Sinking from Thought to Thought, a vast Profound!
Plas'd for his Seville, but found no Bo to there;
Then writ and flouncer'd on in mere Dispair.
Pope's Dunc.

H U S Tibbald, after the Death of Sett's his Predecessor, is deceiv'd sitting in the Dunciad: There are certain Periods of Time wherein many who are fond of being Authors, often find themselves in the Condition of King Tibbald: Some from Necessity become Authors; these are most to be pitied, but not a ways to be excus'd: Another twells in Print, from an insatiable Inclination scribbling appearing in Public; another is rous'd from his native Lethargy and sloth, by the Importunities of a Party;

*Who long on him had built their Hopes,
For writing Pamphlets, and for roasting Popes.*

When they enter the Lists, take up the Gantlets, become Authors, and if like Tibbald, they find themselves sinking from Thought to Thought, pining for Sense, and finding no Bottom it is not to be wonder'd at, it like him also, they perform Writing, and flounder on as our poet beautifully expresses it, in mere Despair. This has given me a more lively Idea of such an Author, than a Piece lately published in the supplement to No. 122, of the Maryland Gazette. The Author pretends he is a Native of England; and from the single Merit of being born in this Province takes upon himself to abuse, traduce, and calumniate a Gentleman who think, and I believe very justly think, that the Fellow Subjects injured by a late Proceeding in Prince George's County Court; and imputes all Opposition to Foreigners, who, he says, were d'riv'd by Fate, to disturb the *Hallicon* Days the People of Maryland had 'til then. Happy People! thrice happy Country! whose Name all sages and Philosophers, whose Inhabitants have in Contempt of Power and Riches, as never to thirst after Gold; but alas, what a Pity it is, that a Happiness is confin'd to sordid Breasts, such sweetnesss of a happy and uninterupted Repose, such an easy contented Frame of Mind, should only in the Reveries of this Author, or in the Golden Age of Poets, whose *Elysium* I fear, has rather furnish'd him with a Description of that happy Mansion of Spirits, void of Passions, than any real Object he had ever seen, or what a reasonable Man of Earth will ever hope or expect to see. But the poor Man has plung'd beyond his Depth, and is not to be wonder'd at that he flouncers on at Random: That else can reconcile his calling on the People of Maryland and loudly affirming in Contradiction to a Truth well known to every Man that hears him, to every Man that will read him, *That hitherto in this our Infant Country, we have, by a very late Instance, enjoy'd the Sweetness of an uninterupted calm Repose.* Will not every Man who reads this Sent from his own Knowledge and Experience in Public Affairs, ask himself? Can any Man forget the Feuds, Heats, and Contentions which have so long and so warmly subsisted between the Government, and our Assemblies? Few are ignorant of the Complaints of the People, and that they have been long neglected at Home, in order to be laid before our Sovereign. But what avails the jarring Interests of the Court and

Country, let these differ, let the Difference be carried on with all the Heat and Violence imaginable, the Country shall still enjoy the Sweets of an uninterupted calm Repose: But if a County Court should at any Time meet with a Rebuff, or some Opposition to its Measures; if this should happen, the Clouds of Misunderstanding immediately gather, that calm Serenity we before enjoyed, shall be at once dissipated, a sudden Storm shall arise, which at once produces all the Calmities of Dissention, by sowing the Minds of Men, and alienating their Affections to such a Degree, that the Inhabitants of the same County shall look like two different Nations.

Surely County Courts appear very considerable in the Eye of this Author; but however they may be in his Eyes, the Public will always claim a Right to judge of their Conduct, and tho' Men might in some Instances submit to the Taxes they impose, without Murmurs or Complaints, yet if they bear large Sums demanded of them as a Right, and find it by sworn Judges of the Law adjudg'd so, upon such Grounds and Reasons as every Stranger by was able to fear was not Lax (as was the Case in the great Caste of Ship Money) in this Case, I say, would our pacific Native submit to whatever Burthen a County Court might be pleas'd to lay upon him, or will those who oppose such Measures, deserve the opprobrious Names of Knaves, Sharpers, and Ince diaries? *Oh! but the hateful and insidious Task of sowing Dissention, and stirring up domestic Feuds, seems to have been by Fate reserv'd for Foreigners, who having liberally tasted of that Hospitality for which this Country is above all others remarkable, jeared our Property, and partook of every Advantage in common with the Natives.* That the People of Maryland are generally hospitable and courteous to Strangers, is a Thing, I believe, that all Strangers allow, and which, for the Honour of my Country, I very heartily concur in, and hope they will always continue so, in Spite of any Endeavours to the contrary. But there are too many amongst us, who look upon all Strangers that settle here, as if many Eye totes; especially if they should happen to rival them in Parts or Fortune, in Parts, by the Advantage of a better Education, in Fortune, by a more successful Industry, these are unpardonable Offences in the Eyes of the Invidious; and tho' it be as censurable as any Proposition in *Euclid*, that it is for the Interest and Prosperity of all Young Countries to encourage Men of Parts and Industry to reside in them, yet it would be very difficult, if not impossible to persuade Men of selfish and imperious Disposition, that any Thing could be for the Public Good, which might mortify their Pride, and prove a Check upon their ambitious Views of Grandeur and popular Applause: Men of this Stamp could not help treating Strangers with Ruceness and ill Manners, whenever they durst; but I hope there are but few of these amongst us. And altho' the Author under our Consideration, from his Dislike or prejudice to Foreigners, as he calls them, would lay to their Charge, *the insidious Task of sowing Dissention, and stirring up domestic Feuds;* yet, if he could be cool enough to look into Facts, how flatly and how strongly would he find them contradict his Passions. He would find Numbers of Gentlemen, Natives of this Province, of good Credit and Fortune, to have been amongst the most forward, in the Opposition to the Measures of the Court; Gentlemen, who disdain to be the blind-folded Fools and Instruments of Sedition, or to be drove on by the factious, turbulent, or avaritious Spirit of others. And the Case happens to be exactly the same, in the present Disputes in Prince George's County; for many Gentlemen of Sense, Fortune, Spirit, and good Families, have been thus meanly calumniated, for no other Reason in the World, than for refusing to be made Tools of, by standing up bravely for their own and the People's Rights, when they conceived them directly attacked. Then indeed they thought it high Time to contend for their just Rights, and oppose the Torrent of a petty Tyranny, that was threatening to break in upon them; yet this Opposition has been carried on with all possible Decency, Sobriety, and Regard to the