

in his Pocket, importing the same in Substance with the Remonstrance, signed by these Six Hundred Freeholders, in whose Name he presented it, and offer'd to produce it. This was truly the Case. It is true, this Gentleman lives in another County, but it is well known that he has a very considerable Estate, both in Land and Slaves, in Prince George's County, and therefore had a Right to concern himself in the public Transactions of the County. The well-bred Native calls him an ever busy Gentleman; every Body knows that a Busy Body is the very worst of Characters. Sir, I can bear Scurrility to myself, especially when I know and despise the Person it comes from; but I confess it raises my Indignation to hear so worthy a Man abus'd, while others, of far inferior Merit, are applauded for Heroes. 'Tis a great Pity he had not received an awkward Education at a Charity-School, and been dubb'd a Justice, then perhaps this Writer would have apply'd to him the Character so nobly set forth by Horace in the following ENGLISH Lines,

THE MAN RESOLV'D, AND STEADY TO HIS TRUST, &c. Thus it is when Men inconsiderately shoot in the Dark, they as often hit a Friend as a Foe. Our unhappy Native seems to be born for a Scourge to his Friends. What Occasion had he to mention Charity Schools; for it suited not one Person upon the opposite side of the Question that ever I heard of; and as it was evidently intended for a Fling at Somebody, it was natural to look out for some one or more whom it fitted: However, take Notice that we do not charge his Hero with having imbib'd Grammatical Nonsense in a Hut, or any where else — But from the high Encomium given the celebrated Foreigner, and the scurvy Treatment the Native has given his own Countryman (as well as other parallel Instances which might be produced) it will plainly appear, that notwithstanding this Author's forward Zeal to vindicate the Natives of Maryland, when no Body attack'd them, his Motives for this, was neither Love of Country, nor true Merit, but only with Design to raise Prejudice against his Opponents, and to surprize the unattentive Reader into a Notion, that he was the Country's Champion against Foreigners, who had greatly abus'd it. I find it would be endless to take Notice of all the Misrepresentations in this Writer; indeed the whole of his Performances is little else; enough has been said to shew, that he is not to be depended on when he pretends to give another Man's Sense: Besides what has been offered, what he calls the Spirit and Substance of the Freeholder's Doctrine is a most flagrant Instance of it; that Rhapsody being nothing else but a peice of dull Buffoonry; more worthy of a Pickle-Herring upon a Mountebank Stage, than of one who pretends to reason upon the British Constitution.

I have all along taken it for granted, that this Gentleman is a Native of Maryland, as he seems to place great Merit in it, and because I think it is not worth a Farthing where he was born. I dare say Posterity will never have any Disputes about the Place of his Nativity. However, I submit the following Sentence to the Opinion of the Natives of Maryland; and from thence let them determine, whether they will chuse to own him for their Countryman, or give up their Claim to him to another Country, a little to the Westward of England. In the Supplement to Nu. b. 156 of this Paper, the Native, or as some People call him, the Natural, writes as follows, *Thus we find that our dull and unthinking Fore-Fathers, the English, continue as ignorant to this Day, as they were two hundred Years ago, when they inadvertently consented to the Law before recited.* It would really be curious to see the Premises that such a Conclusion could be justly drawn from; tho' I do not believe it is altogether orthodox, to assert, that our Fore-Fathers, the English who liv'd two hundred Years ago, continue as ignorant to this Day as they were then; even Burnet himself does not carry the Matter this Length; however, a Court of Inquisition, or, which is the same Thing, a Court, constituted the Judges of Heresy, might determine it.

Let us now enter the Lists with that incomparable Sophist, the flaming Philanthropos. He undertakes to shew that the Freeholder's Letters are scandalous, and defamatory; and talks of Temper, Decency and good Manners. If using all the Scurrility he can think of against his Antagonist, he acting with Temper, Decency and good Manners, and proving his Charge, this Writer has succeeded to his Wish. Take a Specimen or two of this cool, well-manner'd Gentleman's Style. He breathes out Slander and Infamy with a perfect Serenity and Calmness of Mind. O wonderful! He be of human Race! But for a Party Scribler to take upon him to revile and censure Magistracy, is

Insolence and Impudence in the highest Degree. Let the braggadois Assembly themselves judge, whether this Scribler has not done what he could to persuade the People their Liberties were in Danger from an Act of the Legislature. One would think the Legislature would rebuke him for this, &c. &c. Here is Temper, Decency, and good Manners. I wonder what Ideas such a Man have to these Words. 'Thro' the whole of his Performances is either throwing out abusive Language, or calling out to the civil Power to take hold of his Opponent; as if he was scolding in the middle of a Scold, crying out for a Confession. The first Proof he brings that the Freeholder's Letters are scandalous and defamatory, is a peice of Sophistry, to prove the guilt of Non-sense. I never heard before, that Non-sense is either scandalous or defamatory: For Non-sense, properly speaking, neither affirms nor denies any thing. But to pass this, of little Importance, let us hear how this subtle Gentleman makes it out. Ignorantly (says he) to misconstrue a Law, or Law, to serve certain Purposes and By Ends, is a flaming Contradiction and Non-sense; for it supposes he knows his Letter is Misconstruing, and yet is ignorant of them. Now, Sir, the Sophistry of this Criticism consists in applying the Phrase ignorance misconstrue to the By-Ends, as well as to the Law, to which it is alone applicable by the Rules of fair Construction. I suppose a Man has a By-End in View, he meets with a Law that he ignorantly imagines will serve that By-End, and accordingly he tries to make that use of it; Is it not plain that in this Case, he ignorantly misconstrues a Law to serve a By-End? Had the Native ever imbib'd a little grammatical Non-sense, it would have been of some Service to his Cause on this Occasion, and shewn him that the Soph's fancy Contradiction (for in all Probability he had it from him) is nothing but mere Sophistical Smoke.

It has been the Misfortune of both the Native and his Assistant, in their late Papers, to produce Objections, for the Part too with an Air of Triumph, after they had been fully and compleatly answered. I believe every unprejudic'd Man in the Province, nay, even the Native's own Friends, wish the explication of the absurd and ridiculous Figure his second Letter, which happen'd to be in the same Paper with the Freeholder's Explication of the Act of Assembly, and unluckily plac'd immediately following it. There we find him talking of undervaluing his Adversary, as if he had already conquer'd; charging him with having carefully avoided entering into an Explication of the Act of Assembly, as a Rock on which he was to split; asserting that this is the only Act by which the County are impow'erd to tax the People, on any Occasion, or for any Purpose whatever. He goes on, Whenever an Attempt is made of this Sort is made, (viz. to explain the Law in the Freeholder's Letter of it) I shall be ready, and I hope able, to refute all such Arguments and false Reasoning. Nor am I diffident, he says, ever charg'd with Diffidence) of proving, to the Considerate Men, my Adversary as ignorant of the Constitution, as he suppos'd the People of Maryland destitute of common Sense, as they justly esteem him of that and good Manner. This is a noble to read such Fusian, without being put in mind of the Line in Horace,

Projicit ampullas, et sesqui-pedalia verba.

I would ask the few Admirers of this Writer has; what sort of Figure they thought this braggadois Piece made, after reading the foregoing elaborate Performance? To me it seem'd very much to resemble the French Custom-last War, of singing Deum after they had been soundly beaten.

And I think there cannot be a more convincing Proof of the Strength and Validity of the Arguments made use of by the Freeholder on that Occasion, than the late Determination of the Lower House of Assembly; who have resolv'd that Order of Court, against which he was disputing; to be illegal and void, and warrant'd by no Law whatever. This was the Thing the Freeholder undertook to prove; and having done so clearly, upon the Principles of Liberty, and the British Constitution, he drop'd his Pen; depending upon the Strength of the Foundation he had build upon, and it has stood secure amidst the Cavilling rais'd against it, like a House upon a Rock, when all the outrageous Beating of the Wind and Waves were unable to move. Whoever heard the Debates upon this Affair must be further convinc'd of this Truth; and the Names of H—m—nd, H—m—, and Y—ghm—, all Natives of Maryland, will be ever remembered with Honour, by the true Friends of Liberty, for their noble Behaviour on this Occasion. [The] proceed