


## MARYLAND GAZETTE

T H U R S D A Y, D E C E M B E R 6, 1781.

For the MARYLAND GAZETTE:

To Sir HENRY CLINTON, K. B.

S I R,

ADVICE is never attended to with more avidity, than when applied to a man—who hath smarted by his errors. To men of common good understanding, misfortune is a school of wisdom. By a severe, though wholesome lecture, the unclouds the peculiar medium of individuals, through which human affairs are viewed; and it is in the school of this rugged preceptress, the great learn the beauties of wisdom, and the little and the weak taught the folly of despising her. It is there a man is the most judicious critic on his life, and forms a true estimate of things, when the passions, destitute of the means of gratification, drop the pleasing mask of delusion.

To insult the misfortunes of the amiable—and deserving, is the hellish pleasure of a fiend, and is a most daring challenge to the caprice of fortune; but you Sir Henry, if I mistake not, possess in your temper a security against the stings of censure, for I believe none are less galled by her public lash, than those who have long deserved it. It would be difficult to wound the feelings of a man—who hath long been a stranger to the meltings of sensibility, and who hath so notoriously in his office, proved paramount to the sacred rights of human nature, and citizenship.

Had you a common share of sensibility Sir Henry, you would find the tortures of mortification disturbed your peace; but allowing you the small degree of feeling which you have been heir to, sympathy with a brother officer will for an interval of astonishment, lend you a foretaste of those sensations, which ere long, a situation similar to that of the ill-starred earl—may more fully realize. Every reflection which tells you, that you are supreme in command, must make you sensible that as an officer—dedicated to the glories of conquest, you are unfortunate! A supine indifference, plots ingeniously in the wilderness of fancy and pride, which were rendered abortive merely by the republican virtue of American peasants, and for your interests, terminating in the most tragical manner—have given no very flattering traits to the history of your supreme command. In your southern, more extensive views—you have been not less disappointed, where the incoherency of frenzy-formed enterprises—infringe the harmony of a whole well digested design—hath stamped the impressions of despair in the result of all your undertakings. During your whole command Sir Henry, not an event on whole issue, you had an instance hath taken place, but what must for ever associate with your character, the ideas of error—miscarriage, and defeat!

That lucrative spirit of supine delay, which may be called the genius of a British commander in chief, had not as yet smothered the fire of soldiership in your heart, when the small but gallant garrison of Charles-town, were deemed objects worthy of your ambition. You failed against Charles-town, and though crowned with a dear bought victory, found your laurels too severely scorched, to promise their possessor a lasting verdure. You must confess Sir Henry—a fatality attends all your designs, when, in the very scheme you so ardently patronized, and whose execution hath proved so costly, you were but laying the groundwork of a triumph to the allied arms! Under the flattering idea of an established fame, you retired from that scene and left to the care of an inferior officer of superior talents, the promotion of your imaginary greatness. You then tasted the sweets of supremacy, and since that period the world have heard little else from Sir Henry Clinton, than through the channel of his proclamations.

Whether the idea of a southern war, originated in the brain of your ministry or your own, we cannot determine. We must thank, though we cannot compliment the source of so stupid a design. Let it have originated with either, you Sir have by this time had leisure to contemplate in detail—its numerous advantages, and plume yourself on participating as a conspicuous promoter of it, in the glory which its completion reflects on the British nation.

However destitute of genius a man himself may be, there is a degree of reputation to be acquired, by discovering it in others. Have then the prudence to confess the grandeur of a late design which you could not penetrate, for the evidence of your senses, is superior to your pride as an Englishman.

Confess that as you were deficient in that largeness of mind, which at one view comprehends the most intricate system of operation, so were you wanting in that fertility of invention which abounds in the happiest expedients. The sophistry of pride may hitherto have deluded you into visionary expectations of conquest, and vanity over-rated your abilities; but this last master-piece of generalship in the great Washington, is a blow that must have roused you from such ebriety of folly, and afforded a proof of his military logic—whose force of conclusion, you Sir Henry—can neither endure or dispute.

Never, you must confess Sir, was there a plan conceived with more depth of professional wisdom, than that to which Lord Cornwallis owes his captivity: and surely, never was an enterprise of such extensive, and contingent a nature, adopted with more intuitive discernment, or executed with more precision, coincidence of action, and complete success. America beheld the spectacle with an anxious concern, and also her passions which motives of patriotism had deeply interested in its decision, have been amply indulged in its success. If not decisive in her favour, she knew a favourable issue, must prove accelerative of that independence for which she hath willingly and profusely bled. The solid benefits which she derives from this event, throw on it the splendour of true glory, while the action in itself confers on the particular actors, the laurels of conquerors.

If in an unexpected interval of political lunacy, you should ever be interrogated Sir Henry—with parliamentary whys, and wherefores, let a corrupt depravity and obsequiousness to courtiership, so far for once temporize with your honesty, as to enable you, boldly to make the notoriety of national poverty, and the experienced invincibility of the Americans, the heads of your exculpatory speech. All the world will discover that the circumstances which palliated, where they directed, the conduct of the gallant general Burgoyne, want the same influence in their judgments, when applied to the case of Lord Cornwallis. Nationally considered, there admits not a comparison in the disgrace, with which in the eyes of all Europe, these two captive armies have tarnished the arms, and wounded the pride of your haughty nation. The one had not finished his enterprise: the other was defeated, by being too successful. The local situation of their respective armies, rendered the succours which their necessities pressed for, different in their mode of conveyance. Destitute of naval co-operations, General Burgoyne's army was made an easy prey of to men, who to be victorious, desire but an equal footing with those whom they oppose. Lord Cornwallis, elate with the applauses of a ministry who already anticipated the fruits of "his activity, and conduct on which they could fully rely," pushed with the rapidity of confidence, to a position, in whose local, and natural advantages, he flattered himself a junction of his army, and marine powers, might operate with vigour. He gained his object: but here the inferiority of his expected fleets, the superiority of which hath been deemed the palladium of your island, succeeded by a superior allied army, terminated his gaudy expectations in the surrender of his army by the capitulation of York!

When his lordship sat down in York, he found within the limits of his situation, every local circumstance that could flatter, or support his first expectations: here his army, for a moment parted from the fatigues of rapine, and his lordship made some efforts of farther enterprise; when the illustrious chief of America, put in motion the wheels of a design, too refined for his detection, but whose effects have proved as visible as the day. Though the naval victory of the count de Grasse was irretrievably complete, his account of his victory, proves his just estimation of the favours of fortune, while the great regard he pays to the feelings of the vanquished—evinces the generosity of his soul. This Sir Henry should polish the manners, while it corrects the prejudices of your nation, and while the count de Grasse teaches your officers how to gain victories, let them—by imitating farther his example, learn how to acquire glory. Let their pens be exercised in the language of generosity. Let them do justice to an enemy whom they may fight, but whom they cannot hate, or despise.

Permit me once more Sir Henry to attend particularly to yourself, though digressions perhaps may in your eye, form the most pleasing parts of this letter. Where were you—and what schemes of immortal duration were you forming, when general

Washington was preparing for the siege of New-York. Your ministry ordered you to bring if possible general Washington to a general, and as they ignorantly presumed, decisive engagement. Such an event might have inspired the conversation of your court, and by exercising the invention of fertile venality—given you temporary eclat in the dispatches of your puffery. Such an eccentric start from your accustomed uniformity of dullness, would have been a variation of conduct, that might have drawn once more the eyes of the world upon a character, (for a second perusal) whose lines they discovered at first sight to be so insipidly legible.

But there was in the avarice, to which as commander in chief you succeeded, a security against the hostile activity of a soldier: a dilatory mode of offence, which, as we knew you possessed both the power, and inclination of an enemy, rendered your character—and exertions merely the subject of suspicion.

Safe from surprise behind your strong fortifications, you indulged yourself in the security with which nature had guarded the place of your residence—since she had not blessed you with a sagacity equal to the designs of your enemy. Under the influence of a principle more modernly fashionable, than that which moved the operations of your glorious opponent, you prudently relinquished the toys of ambition to your inferior officers; and secure in the emoluments of office, you despised the tinsel of fame while a golden harvest invited your grasp: this, from your knowledge of those springs which elevate the great, you knew would gain you the rewards—without tempting you through the rugged task of valour.

You are better acquainted Sir Henry with the temper of your nation at present than I possibly can be: you know their sanguine expectations, and can best conceive the effects which your dispatches will create in their minds. The shock must be proportioned to their elevation, and from every circumstance of intelligence, we may believe their circle of expectation included the final subjugation of the five southern states. The poignancy of their sensations will be equalled, but by the bitterness of their misfortunes when your dispatches if true, and fully descriptive, shall confirm to the world the vascillancy of the British fleets. The poverty, and decline of your nation, will in the eyes of all, be intimately involved with the contemplation of this event. The declension of the greatest empires—which employ the philosophic genius of history, proves that "there is a tide" in the greatness, and grandeur of nations, as well as in the affairs of men: Britain is on the rapid ebb, and by taking her place amongst the list of once famous empires who have sunk down the wheel of time, she will make this age a memorable era to posterity. Like a decayed beauty she may still retain the love of conquest, and submission, but like her, must expect the mortification of disappointment. Her exertions in this way, tho' violent for her decayed constitution, bear in their result all the unavailing impotence of old age, without its wisdom. Your ministry may once more charm up the semblance of the British lion, but the world will instantly perceive the usurpation of the ass.

Like a man whose pride is greater than his understanding, your nation will be the last one in Europe that will discover her weakness. Too eager to admit an interval of reflection, it enters with the warmth of passion, rather than the deliberation of judgment, into all its favourite pursuits: from an impatience of temper that acts with earnestness, but with momentary impulses, it provided not the means by which an end is to be obtained, with that concatenation of events, that forms the very soul of politics—which act with a slow, but successful energy. From that warmth of complexion which marks the character of your people with a spirit so restless, arises a credulity equally destructive, to which they are made dupes, by the false intelligence of those who find it lucrative to deceive them. The body of your nation as I believe possessed of sense enough to retract from a detected, prejudicial error, but its history proves Sir Henry that they were never yet saved from a precipice by instinct.

The channel of all the official informations that amuse your misled sovereignty, and act like a soothing opiate on the credulity of your countrymen, must be traced to none other than the source of action, the commander in chief. The inference is plain.

The time of your departure for England may now be near. For God's sake, and your own,



Give Sir Henry by one negative virtue the remains of your character, and your country! and let the happy consequences of this one, console your heart for the want of those active properties of a soldier, which nature hath denied you. Be candid. In the sincerest manner declare, convince them by the reasonings of experience, the most authoritative language of wisdom, convince them of the injustice, impracticability, impolicy, and madness of attempting the subjection of this country; teach them this important truth, and though Sir Henry Clinton proved unequal to the conquest of America, he may be saluted the great preserver of Britain.

REPUBLICANUS.

Maryland, Nov. 27, 1781.

BOSTON, November 15.

**A** GENTLEMAN arrived in this town last Monday from Charles-town, (S. C.) where he had for some time been a prisoner on parole, which place he left the 11th of last month; by him we learn, that the British suffered greatly in the late action between them and General Greene, and that their loss was not less than 1200 killed, wounded and prisoners. This gentleman saw six vessels loaded with wounded men come down the river, and were landed at Charles-town soon after the engagement; he further adds, that there were not more than 200 troops, including British and Hessians, in Charles-town, and those were all ordered to Monk's-corner, except a few Hessians; the inhabitants were all obliged to do duty in the city: they were all in expectation of being attacked by General Greene; the merchants were disposing of their effects as fast as possible; vendues were plenty, but purchasers scarce; when he left that city, General Greene lay about three miles from Monk's-corner, as he was informed by some of the people who came from that place.

When the vessels last arrived from France left that kingdom, the prevailing reports from persons of good authority were, that all apprehensions respecting the cause of the allies in the present war, arising from the death of the late empress of Germany, and the views of the imperial court were now over; the emperor having been in France three months, and secretly settled with his Most Christian Majesty all material points concerning the general arrangement of affairs; that though it was prudent in the late situation of affairs for France to keep a very large part of her forces at home, and ready for any contingency, yet now all matters being amicably adjusted with the only power that Britain had any hopes of employing in her favour, it was in the power of France greatly to augment her force in America; accordingly it was said that a large body of troops were destined to be embarked for these coasts, and might in no great length of time be expected here.

On Tuesday last Captain Collier arrived at Salem, in 34 days from Nantes. The letters are not yet come to town; but by a gentleman who came passenger in this vessel we are informed, that the Spaniards continue vigorously to push the siege of Gibraltar; that the forces which were employed for the reduction of Minorca, after possessing themselves of the whole island, to the environs of St. Philips, had carried their approaches very near that fortress, and cut off the water from the garrison, which it was expected would soon surrender. That the combined fleet having cruised for some time in the channel, where no British Squadron had ventured to face it, at length separated; the French returning to Brest, and the Spanish ships to Cadiz.

FISH-KILL, November 22.

*Extract of a letter from a gentleman near the lines.*

"I have the pleasure to forward the account of an instance of partisan bravery on the coast, which, though it may have its equal, is seldom exceeded.

"On the morning of the 13th inst. a party consisting of about 20 continental troops, under the command of lieutenant de Forest, one of the Connecticut line; and 15 volunteers under Captain Lockwood, late of the continental army, with lieutenants Hull and Mead, went on board a small unarmed vessel which lay in East-Chester bay, and made chase after a fleet which appeared off between them and Long-Island. They came up with a privateer well equipped, mounting 10 carriage guns, secured by a strong netting, 22 feet in height above her gunwale, with 25 regular troops on board, of the regiment of Anspach, armed with spears for their defence. On seeing her strength and equipment, they found there was no other way to reduce her, but by the closest action; they accordingly threw their little vessel along side of her, and commenced the attack, and with that determined bravery which knows no repulse, in the space of a few minutes, with their knives and bayonets, made themselves a passage through her netting, and properly vindicated their superiority. Unfortunately lieutenant Mead, (who like the true soldier, was among the foremost on board) received a wound,

which it is feared is mortal: several others of the party, the captain of the privateer and four others of the crew, were also wounded.

"In the time of the attack, some boats, who were also of the party, under Captain Jones, and Mr. Mattbie, took six of the convoy, two of which were ransomed; the rest, with the privateer, are arrived in Stanford harbour.

"Though this is an instance of the petre guerre, yet the difficulty of the object, compared with the situation of the assailants, does no less honour to the individuals in point of reputation as soldiers; and shews that they share the same spirit of military ardour and enterprise, which has crowned us with the successes and expectations of the present day."

PHILADELPHIA, November 24.

Thursday last the schooner Neptune, captain d'Allement, arrived here from Cadiz, after a passage of 70 days. She confirms the accounts (given in our paper of Tuesday last) of the Spanish armament destined for the reduction of the island of Minorca, having taken possession of the whole of the said island except the principal fortress of St. Philip, into which the garrison had with much precipitation retired, and it was expected must shortly submit, as they were not prepared for such a sudden attack.

Nov. 27. Yesterday afternoon his excellency the commander in chief, with his lady, arrived in town from Virginia. In the evening the bells were rung, and other demonstrations of joy were shewn by people of all ranks.

Office for confiscated estates, Annapolis, November 27, 1781.

**T**O be sold at vendue, the following property on the eastern shore, to wit: The several manors in Kent, Queen-Anne's, Dorchester, Somerset, and Worcester counties; also two lots and houses, two negroes, and other personal estate in the town of Oxford, in Talbot county, which belonged to Spiers, Mackie, and company, and Spiers, French, and company.

The sale of Kent manor will begin at Chester-town, on Monday the 7th of January next.

Queen-Anne's manor, at Church-hill, in Queen-Anne's county, on Monday the 24th of January next.

The houses and lots, and other property, which belonged to Spiers, Mackie, and company, &c. at Oxford, in Talbot county, on Friday the 18th of January next.

Nanticoke manor, at Vienna, in Dorchester county, on Monday the 21st of January next.

The manor lands in Somerset and Worcester, at Salisbury, on Friday the 25th of January next.

The whole sold for specie, or bills of credit emitted the 10th of May, 1781, to the actual value thereof. One third of the sum bid to be paid on the first day of September next, and the residue in two equal and annual payments thereafter. The purchasers giving bond on interest with two good securities.

2 JO. BAXTER, clk.

Prince-George's county, November 15, 1781.

To be sold at public sale, in Piscataway, on Tuesday the 18th of December next, for crop tobacco in notes of not less than 950 act, nor older than twelve months.

**T**HE estate of Dr. Joseph Adderton, deceased, consisting of landry negroes, men, women, and children, also horses, hogs, sheep, and cattle, together with a variety of household furniture. Credit will be given for twelve months, on giving bond with good security, the interest to commence from the end of six months. At the same time will be sold for ready cash, the corn, tobacco, and small grain on the plantation.

2 W5

November 18, 1781.

To be sold, on Wednesday the 21st of December, to the highest bidder, at Bellair in Prince-George's county,

**A** VALUABLE brood mare, with a very fine colt by her side, got by Sweeper. Also a very fine stone colt, rising two years old, got by Sweeper, out of a three quarter blooded mare, he is equal in size and figure to any colt in the state of his blood. Likewise a fine cow with calf, by a remarkable large Rhode-Island bull. There will be sold at the same time a quantity of wearing apparel, all very good, and many other things, too tedious to mention, being the late property of Felter Lautenburgher, deceased. The sale to be for specie. Three months credit will be given, if required, on giving bond with security.

2 SUSANNA LAUTENBURGER.

**A** FEW copies of the LAWS of MARYLAND, passed last session of assembly, may be had at the Printing-office.

10

**THIRTY SHILLINGS REWARD.**  
**S**TOLN or STRAYED from the pasture of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Esq; a black mare, aged 4 years last spring, near 13 hands high, bob switch tail, branded on the near buttock and shoulder 'CC, trots and gallops, has on no shoes. Whoever will bring said mare to the subscriber at Mr. Carroll's quarter near Annapolis, shall receive the above reward with thanks.

JAMES SEARS.

N. B. The brand may not be perceived as it is but slight.

3X

**T**AKEN by John Brown, within nine miles of Annapolis, a sorrel mare, about 13 hands high, a natural pacer, no brand, has a star in her forehead and a small blaze about mid-way her face, white hind legs, long switch tail, and her mane hangs on the near side. The owner may have her again on proving property and paying charges.

**A** PERSON, well recommended, capable of teaching the Latin and English languages, will meet with encouragement by applying to

JOHN PERRY,  
FRANCIS WHEATLY,

Charles county.

**N**OTICE is hereby given that the subscriber intends to petition the general assembly of Maryland, at their next session, to make over to him a tract of land called Hardesty, being near Hunting-town, now in the possession of Joseph Hall.

GABRIEL CHILDS.

Alexandria, November 12, 1781.

Will be sold to the highest bidder, on Wednesday the 19th of December next, if fair, if not the next fair day, at the subscriber's plantation near Piscataway in Maryland.

**T**WENTY-FIVE likely young country born NEGROES, consisting of men, women, and children. It is necessary to observe, that those negroes are sold for no fault, and that they are equal to any negroes in the state; amongst whom are several likely young breeding women, well acquainted with cooking and all kind of house work. Also at the same time and place will be sold, horses, hogs, sheep, and cattle, of the very best kind, together with all kinds of plantation utensils. The above will be sold for ready tobacco or twelve months credit, at the option of the purchaser; if the latter, to be on bond with security. I have likewise to let, two very valuable plantations on Patowmack river, sufficient for ten or twelve hands to work, on which is sowed 25 bushels of small grain. On one of the said plantations is a very commodious and well fixed distillery, calculated for either brewing or distilling, with several fine stills and a large iron boiler, which I will rent or sell with the plantation. The terms may be known by applying to

4 W5

WILLIAM LYLES, jun.

Port-Tobacco, November 7, 1781.

To be sold by the subscriber, living near Port-Tobacco, in Charles county, on Monday the tenth of December next, at public sale,

**S**UNDRY articles of household furniture, and plantation utensils, a single chair or fultrey, in tolerable good repair, a very good collection of books chiefly on divinity, seventy or eighty barrels of Indian corn, a considerable quantity of cotton, and a few neat cattle. The greatest part of the above articles will be sold for tobacco, either ready down, or on six months credit with interest, as may best suit the purchasers; but the chair, and a few other small articles, will be sold for ready cash, one half to be paid in specie, and the other in paper money at the passing value.

1W 3X JOANNA HAMILTON.

By the COMMITTEE of GRIEVANCES and COURTS of JUSTICE, November 27, 1781.

**N**OTICE is hereby given, that this committee will sit at the state-house from 12 o'clock till 3 on each day during the present session of assembly.

2 By order,

GEO. RANKEN, clk.

Annopolis, November 27, 1781.

**A**NY person of a good character, who will go to Hanover court-house in Virginia, and bring from thence a couple of negroes belonging to the subscriber, and deliver them to her, shall be entitled to a reasonable reward, and may keep in plantation on the north side of South river as a security till the money be paid; or they may enter on it, tend it, and have the use of the fire-wood until by these means the debt be discharged.

2

ANNE TILLY.

**A**LMANACKS, for the year of our Lord 1782, may be had at the printing-office.



[XXXVIIIth Year.]

THE

[No. 1221.]

## MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, DECEMBER 13, 1781.

## To the PEOPLE of MARYLAND.

**T**HE Senate, and the house of delegates, having disagreed about the terms, upon which bills of the last emission ought to be received at the treasury, the law it is said, must take its course.

I am not disposed to cavil about the meaning of the words "actual value"—I am willing to adopt the general construction—but how is the actual value to be ascertained, since the act is by no means explicit with respect to the mode? The treasurer does not conceive himself authorized to assume the office of an arbitrator between the government and its debtors—it would indeed be extraordinary if he did, as no legal authority can be constituted without words—There is fortunately a defect in the law, which I account for, partly from the extreme difficulty of adjusting a plan, and partly from a fond belief, that under such excellent provisions, the bills could not depreciate—the latter part of the hypothesis, although it does little honour to their discernment, must be admitted to protect the authors of the law from a very heavy charge; for if the treasurer receives 100 pounds in these bills for a debt of 30 pounds, it is evident, the state has sunk 70 pounds, without redeeming it, and the loss has fallen somewhere—sagacious men may consider this operation of the law as only depriving speculators of their unlawful gains, and that depreciation is a convenient tax for discharging great part of the debt, without exciting the murmurs of the people—they may also perceive another peculiar excellence in this mode of taxation—the most respectable members of the community, the gentlemen of opulence, may contrive to escape the burthen, and even come in for a share of the profit—But if any man dare openly avow the principle, his heart is depraved as his understanding, and both are objects of contempt and detestation.

If the provision was "intended to prevent depreciation," why not repeal it, when the experiment has evinced its futility? "Oh! but if the general assembly goes on for ever enacting and repealing, there can be no dependence on them." I admire the man, who will sacrifice a valuable consideration for the sake of consistency—to be perfectly consistent, is not agreeable to human nature—to change an opinion, without a change of circumstances, betrays indeed a levity and want of thought; but to persevere in short-sighted schemes of policy, much oftener bespeaks a littleness than an elevation of soul.—So much for the objection against inconsistency.

Converse with people of every condition—they perceive the advantage of preserving public faith.—Some zealous advocates have advanced an extravagant position, that "the honourable senate, by rejecting the resolve, has manifested a disposition to restore and preserve the credit of government."—The true business is to convince the people, that if any of the bills shall be brought to the treasury after December 1784, for the purpose of exchange, they shall be redeemed with specie, before the 15th of June 1785.—How, in the name of policy, does the dissent tend to produce this conviction? It has already produced an opposite effect, by holding out the idea, that it is just to emit bills as specie, and call them in at the passing value—almost every plain undesigning man declares he will have nothing further to do with them; and four dollars in paper can now scarcely command one of silver.—This is the time for a speculator, who can risk his property on public faith, to make the strongest purchase—he must nevertheless take care to observe some reasonable limits, or a method may hereafter be fallen upon to crush his daring hopes—however, for his consolation, he will have a common cause with gentlemen of property who can afford to sell the produce of their farms and plantations for these bills—it may sound odd—but these are the men, that can speculate with the greatest advantage, and even without incurring the opprobrium of the character.

"If government receives the bills at their actual value, no body will be interested in their depreciation." A plain case will evince the mistake.—A gentleman worth 10,000 pounds has passed his bond for 1000 payable at a future day—the obligee, being pressed by necessity, offers this bond to sale—is not the purchaser benefited by getting it for less than 1000 pounds, and for every pound, he gives less than 1000, is he not a pound the richer? There cannot be a plainer case, and it is the interest of every man, to depreciate the bills of credit, who can lay them up till 1785, provided a fair re-

demption will then take place. Men of affluence are not always restrained by a sense of duty; nor are they by any means the most remarkable for sacrificing private interest to the public good.

"Receive the bills at par, and you will have many more interested in their depreciation—you will have all the purchasers of British property."—With all my heart—they will be interested in the same manner; as the buyers of every commodity brought to market are interested in keeping down the price—if the quantity is unequal to the demand, not all the combinations, or multiplied arts of the buyers, can diminish the price—the property assigned for the redemption of the bills, which has already been sold, amounts to more than the sum emitted.—The possessors of the bills are sensible of their advantage—they will be in a condition rather to impose, than receive terms, and nothing I conceive can prevent their commodity from continually rising in value.

"Almost every man in the state is a possessor of the bills, and a great majority is now interested in their appreciation." Very true—it was equally the interest of a majority to appreciate the old continental bills—the monster Opinion was against them, and the thing could not be done.—Experience might by this time have convinced men, that opinion is not to be directed by the legislature.—Of what effect have been tender laws, penalties, oaths, and allocations? Every thing conveying the idea of constraint has made the matter worse.—Opinion will be free, and, as it depends not upon the principles of reason, a politician can do no more than form a probable conjecture; if he finds himself deceived he should change his ground.—In the beginning of the month bills were at 3 for 1, at present they do not circulate—No body will touch them, unless he can get them at 3 or 4 for 1.—Ought not these things to have some influence in deciding the important question between the two branches of the legislature?

Extravagant ideas are entertained with respect to speculators—"they can do as they please with paper money; they have secret combinations and plans; they will engross the British property; they have hitherto indeed been moderate in their depreciation of the real money; but it was only to induce the assembly to adopt the resolve of the house of delegates."—I will not affront men of understanding by the imputation of such opinions—I shall only observe, that if the power of speculators extends so far, they may depreciate the bills to 10 for 1, and then bring them back to 2 for 1, and at that rate pay them into the treasury.

After a series of destructive experiments, it was unreasonable to expect mere bills of credit to pass as paper money—they have done a great deal—they have apparently answered the same purposes as specie—they have discharged specie debts and the treasury still emits them as specie. Whether this is owing to the confidence or distrust of the people, he that has last received them, is best qualified to answer. In a recent publication I insisted on the obligation government was under to make what it passed for money as nearly equal to money as possible.—I will not stain my paper with the ungenerous, shallow, remarks, which have been since made on the subject—I still insist on the proposition, and neither the decisions, nor arguments of any man, or set of men, have convinced me, that I was wrong in suggesting the propriety of government's receiving its bills as specie.

Let us suppose the parliament of Great Britain to enact, that if bank notes should pass at a value inferior to the sum expressed, they should be redeemed by the bank, at their passing value.—What would be the consequence?—not another note would issue—those already in circulation would return, and, in less than ten days, the bank would be ruined. Could it be expected that holding forth the idea of receiving at the actual value would be less fatal to mere bills of credit? So long as this provision remains, there will be a general persuasion, that the same rule will be adopted at the final redemption. Gentlemen of warm passions and conscious integrity may resent the insinuation—they are determined to comply strictly with their engagements. Let me then enquire what difference it makes to the public, whether these bills are sunk by receiving them at par immediately, or by giving gold and silver in exchange 24 years hence? I can inform them of a material difference—it is no less than this—if government does not receive its bills as specie, it will be unable to perform its engagements; for not a single bill except those already in the hands of the purchaser will be paid for British

property, unless he can procure them at a value inferior to the rate established at the treasury, and bring them in, before that rate can be altered—he will not pay them at all, at the rate of 4, or 3, or even a for 1, if he can by any other means make his payment; because he will conceive it more advantageous to reserve them till 1785, and convert them into gold and silver.—As it is notorious, that British property was sold for a or 3 times the value, he can adopt no better method of saving himself from the consequences of an imprudent contract.—But many purchasers will not exert themselves to make payment at all—they will rely on the generosity of the state to release them from a ruinous engagement.—The legislature, "to punish their ingratitude, to be constant, and to show that it is determined to preserve its credit," must reject their petitions; an execution must issue at the stated time, "and the money due on such bonds shall be levied in specie, or the said bills to the actual value thereof." Of specie, it is said (perhaps with truth) there are not 30,000 pounds in the state.—Of bills there is not enough to pay for the property sold, if even taken at par—it is very improbable that the possessors of the bills will part with them at the discount of 2, 3, or 400 per cent. for property taken in execution, unless that property is sold amazingly cheap, or unless they disregard the plighted faith of government, and see the glaring impossibility of redeeming so many hoarded bills with gold and silver.

Supposing the quantity of specie in the state not to exceed the sum just mentioned, no man in his senses will deny, that if a great part of these bills are hoarded, it will be impracticable to redeem them with gold and silver, unless these precious commodities should flow into the state through channels, which at present do not exist—there is then a necessity for taking away the inducement to hoarding, which must be practised so long as the general opinion depreciates the bills, and enterprising men dare speculate on the faith of government. I repeat it again and again—that by receiving at par you produce a competition, which, in the nature of things, cannot fail to restore that value, which considered merely as promissory notes payable at a future day, they ought to bear—this being done, where is the motive for laying them up.

I am deeply interested in the business of appreciation—I have bestowed great attention on the subject, and can offer no plan equal to that proposed by the house of delegates—I have indeed heard of none, except the *desisted* scheme of a tender law; and until gentlemen of superior intelligence shall condescend to impart new lights, I shall think it absolutely necessary to adopt the proposition of the house of delegates. The matter is so plain to my understanding, that the reasonings of much abler men, who maintain an opposite opinion, have not convinced me of error.

Annapolis, December 8, 1781. A.C.H.

From the New-York Royal Gazette, of November 24, 1781.

S I R,  
I AM directed to send you the enclosed letter from Lieutenant-general Earl Cornwallis, to his excellency the commander in chief, which you are desired to publish in your next Gazette. I am your obedient servant,  
Nov. 25, 1781. OL. DELANCEY, adjutant-gen.  
Mr. James Rivington, printer, &c.

York-town in Virginia, Octob. the 21th, 1781.

S I R,  
I HAVE the mortification to inform your excellency, that I have been forced to give up the posts of York and Gloucester, and to surrender the troops under my command, by capitulation, on the nineteenth instant, as prisoners of war, to the combined forces of America and France.  
I never saw this post in any favourable light. But when I found I was to be attacked in it so unprepared a state, by so powerful an army and artillery, nothing but the hopes of relief would have induced me to attempt its defence, for I would either have attempted to escape to New-York, by rapid marches from the Gloucester side, immediately on the arrival of general Washington's troops at Williamsburg, or I would, notwithstanding the disparity of numbers, have attacked them in the open field, where it might have been just possible that fortune would have favoured the gallantry of the handful of brave troops under my command.

\* The second figure of the date was not legible.



But being assured by your excellency's letters, that every possible means would be tried by the navy and army to relieve us, I could not think myself at liberty to enter on either of those desperate attempts. Therefore, after remaining two days in a strong position in front of this place, in hopes of being attacked, observing that the enemy had taken measures which could not fail of turning my left flank in a short time, and receiving on the second evening your letter of the 24th of September, informing that the relief would sail about the 5th of October, I withdrew within the works on the 29th of September, hoping, by the labour and firmness of the soldiers, to protract the defence until you could arrive. Every thing was to be expected from the spirit of the troops, but every disadvantage attended their labour, as the works were to be continued under the enemy's fire, and our stock of entrenching tools, which did not exceed four hundred when we began to work in the latter end of August, was now much diminished.

The enemy broke ground on the 30th, and constructed on that night, and the two following days and nights, two redoubts, which, with some works that had belonged to our outward position, occupied a gorge between two creeks or ravines, which come from the river on each side of the town. On the night of the 6th of October, they made their first parallel, extending from its right on the river to a deep ravine on the left, nearly opposite to the centre of this place, and embracing our whole left, at the distance of six hundred yards. Having perfected this parallel, their batteries opened on the evening of the 9th against our left, and other batteries fired at the same time against a redoubt advanced over the creek upon our left, and defended by about one hundred and twenty men of the 23d regiment, and marines, who maintained that post with uncommon gallantry. The fire continued incessant from heavy cannon, and from mortars and howitzers, throwing shells from eight to sixteen inches, until our guns on the left were silenced, our works much damaged, and our loss of men considerable. On the night of the 11th, they began their second parallel about three hundred yards nearer to us. The troops being much weakened by sickness, as well as by the fire of the besiegers, and observing that the enemy had not only secured their flanks, but proceeded in every respect with regularity and caution, I could not venture so large sorties as to hope from them any considerable effect. But otherwise I did every thing in my power to interrupt their work, by opening new embrasures for guns, and keeping a constant fire with all the howitzers and small mortars that we could man.

On the evening of the 14th, they assaulted and carried two redoubts, that had been advanced about three hundred yards for the purpose of delaying their approaches, and covering our left flank, and during the night included them in their second parallel, on which they continued to work with the utmost exertion. Being perfectly sensible that our works could not stand many hours after opening of the batteries of that parallel, we not only continued a constant fire with all our mortars, and every gun that could be brought to bear upon it, but a little before day-break, in the morning of the 16th, I ordered a sortie of about 350 men, under the direction of lieutenant-colonel Abercrombie, to attack two batteries which appeared to be in the greatest forwardness, and spike the guns; a detachment of the guards, with the 18th company of grenadiers, under the command of lieutenant-colonel Lake, attacked the one; and one of light infantry, under the command of major Armstrong, attacked the other. They both succeeded, by forcing the redoubts that covered them, spiking 21 guns, and killing or wounding about 100 of the French troops, who had the guard of that part of the trenches, and with little loss on our side. This action, though extremely honourable to the officers and soldiers who executed it, proved of little public advantage, for the cannon having been spiked in a hurry, were soon rendered fit for service again, and before dark the whole parallel and batteries appeared to be nearly complete.

At this time we knew that there was no part of the whole front attacked in which we could throw a single gun, and our shells were nearly expended. I had therefore only to chuse between preparing to surrender next day, or endeavouring to get off with the greatest part of the troops. I determined to attempt the latter, reflecting that though it should prove unsuccessful in its object, it might at least delay the enemy in the prosecution of farther enterprises. Sixteen large boats were prepared, and upon other pretexts were ordered to be in readiness to receive troops precisely at 10 o'clock. With these I hoped to pass the infantry during the night, abandoning our baggage, and leaving a detachment to capitulate for the town's people and the sick and wounded, on which subject a letter was ready to be delivered to general Washington. After making my arrangements with the utmost

secrecy, the light infantry, greatest part of the guards, and the 23d regiment, embarked at the hour appointed. Most of them landed at Gloucester; but at the critical moment, the weather, from being moderate and calm, changed to a most violent storm of wind and rain, and drove all the boats, some of which had troops on board, down the river.

It was soon evident that the intended passage was impracticable. And the absence of the boats rendered it equally impossible to bring back the troops that had passed, which I had ordered about two o'clock in the morning.

In this situation, with my little force divided, the enemy's batteries opened at day-break. The passage between this place and Gloucester was much exposed, but the boats having now returned, they were ordered to bring back the troops that had passed during the night, and they joined us in the forenoon without much loss. Our works in the mean time were going to ruin, and not having been able to strengthen them by abatis, nor in any other manner than by a slight frazing, which the enemy's artillery were demolishing wherever they fired, my opinion entirely coincided with that of the engineer and the principal officers of the army, that they were in many places very affailable in the forenoon, and that by a continuance of the same fire for a few hours longer, they would be in such a state as to render it desperate with our numbers to maintain them. We at that time could not fire a single gun; only one eight inch, and little more than 100 cohorns remained; a diversion by the French ships of war, that lay at the mouth of York river, was to be expected; our numbers had been diminished by the enemy's fire, but particularly by sickness, and the strength and spirits of those in the works were much exhausted by the fatigue of constant watching and unremitting duty.

Under all these circumstances, I thought it would have been wanton and inhuman to the last degree to sacrifice the lives of this small body of gallant soldiers, who have ever behaved with so much fidelity and courage, by exposing them to an assault, which, from the numbers and precautions of the enemy, could not fail to succeed. I therefore proposed to capitulate. And I have the honour to enclose to your excellency the copy of the correspondence between general Washington and me on that subject, and the terms of capitulation agreed upon. I sincerely lament that better could not be obtained. But I have neglected nothing to alleviate the misfortunes and distress of both officers and soldiers. The men are well clothed, and provided with necessaries; and I trust will be regularly supplied by the means of the officers that are permitted to remain with them. The treatment in general, that we have received from the enemy since our surrender, has been perfectly good and proper. But the kindness and attention that has been shewn to us by the French officers in particular, their delicate sensibility of our situation, their generous and pressing offers of money, both public and private, to any amount, has really gone beyond what I can possibly describe. And will, I hope, make an impression on the breast of every British officer, whenever the fortune of war should put any of them into our power.

Although the event has been so unfortunate, the patience of the soldiers in bearing the greatest fatigues, and their firmness and intrepidity under a perlevering fire of shot and shells, that I believe has not often been exceeded, deserved the highest commendation and praise. A successful defence however, in our situation, was perhaps impossible, for the place could only be reckoned an intrenched camp, subject in most places to enfilade, and the ground in general so disadvantageous, that nothing but the necessity of fortifying it as a post to protect the navy, could have induced any person to erect works upon it. Our force diminished daily by sickness and other losses, and was reduced when we offered to capitulate, and on this side, to little more than 3200 rank and file, fit for duty, including officers servants and artificers; and at Gloucester, about 600, including cavalry. The enemy's army consisted of upwards of 8000 French, nearly as many continentals, and 5000 militia. They brought an immense train of heavy artillery, most amply furnished with ammunition, and perfectly well manned.

The constant and universal cheerfulness and spirit of the officers in all hardship and danger, deserve my warmest acknowledgments. And I have been particularly indebted to brigadier-general O'Hara, and lieutenant-colonel Abercrombie, the former commanding on the right, and the latter on the left, for their attention and exertion on every occasion. The detachment of the 23d regiment and marines in the redoubt on the right, commanded by capt. Abthorp; and the subsequent detachments, commanded by lieutenant-colonel Johnston, deserve particular attention. Capt. Rochfort, who commanded the artillery, and indeed every officer and

soldier of that distinguished corps, and lieutenant-colonel the commanding engineer, have merited in every respect my highest approbation. And I cannot sufficiently acknowledge my obligations to capt. Symonds, who commanded his majesty's ships, and to the other officers and seamen of the navy, for their zealous and active co-operation.

I transmit returns of our killed and wounded. The loss of the seamen and town's people was likewise considerable.

I trust that your excellency will please to hasten the return of the Bonetta, after landing her passengers, in compliance with the articles of capitulation.

Lieut. col. Abercrombie will have the honour to deliver this dispatch, and is well qualified to explain to your excellency every particular relative to our past and present situation.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, Sir, your most obedient, and most humble servant,

(signed) CORNWALLIS.

By the UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS assembled, October 29, 1781.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, be presented to major-general Greene, for his wife, decisive and magnanimous conduct in the action of the 8th of September last, near the Eutaw Springs in South Carolina; in which, with a force inferior in number to that of the enemy, he obtained a most signal victory.

That the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, be presented to the officers and men of the Maryland and Virginia brigades, and the Delaware battalion of continental troops, for the unparalleled bravery and heroism by them displayed, in advancing to the enemy through an incessant fire, and charging them with an impetuosity and ardour that could not be resisted.

That the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, be presented to the officers and men of the legionary corps and artillery, for their intrepid and gallant exertions during the action.

That the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, be presented to the brigade of North-Carolina, for their resolution and perseverance in attacking the enemy, and sustaining a superior fire.

That the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, be presented to the officers and men of the state corps of South-Carolina, for the zeal, activity and firmness by them exhibited throughout the engagement.

That the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, be presented to the officers and men of the militia, who formed the front line in the order of battle, and sustained their post with honour, propriety, and a resolution worthy of men determined to be free.

*Resolved*, That a British standard be presented to major-general Greene, as an honourable testimony of his merit, and a golden medal emblematical of the battle and victory aforesaid.

That major-general Greene be desired to present the thanks of congress, to captains Pierce and Pendleton, major Hyne and captain Shubrick, his aids de camp, in testimony of their particular activity and good conduct during the whole of the action.

That a sword be presented to captain Pierce, who bore the general's dispatches giving an account of the victory, and that the board of war take order herein.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, be presented to brigadier-general Marion of the south-Carolina militia, for his wife, gallant and decided conduct, in defending the liberties of his country, and particularly for his prudent and intrepid attack on a body of the British troops, on the 30th day of August last, and for the distinguished part he took in the battle of the 8th of September.

Extract from the minutes,  
CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

Z. Or thoughts on a plan for a new paper money, and for recovering a currency to our old emissions, in our next.

December 11, 1781.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Thomas Rutland, late of Anne-Arundel county, deceased, are desired to make immediate payment. And all those having claims against the said estate, are requested to make them known, to  
JOSEPH HOWARD, jun. executor.

Calvert county, December 10, 1781.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Charles Grahame, late of Calvert county, deceased, are desired to come and discharge the same to the subscriber. And those who have claims against the said estate, are requested to bring them in to be adjusted and settled.

ASINETH GRAHAME, administratrix.



## SUPPLEMENT TO THE MARYLAND GAZETTE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1781.

By the UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS assembled, October 29, 1781.

**Resolved,** That the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, be presented to his excellency general Washington, for the eminent services which he has rendered to the United States, and particularly for the well concerted plan against the British garrisons in York and Gloucester, for the vigour, attention, and military skill, with which that plan was executed, and for the wisdom and prudence manifested in the capitulation.

That the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, be presented to his excellency the count de Rochambeau, for the cordiality, zeal, judgment and fortitude, with which he seconded and advanced the progress of the allied army, against the British garrison in York.

That the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, be presented to his excellency count de Grasse, for his display of skill and bravery in attacking and defeating the British fleet off the bay of Chesapeake, and for his zeal and alacrity in rendering, with the fleet under his command, the most effectual and distinguished aid and support to the operations of the allied army in Virginia.

That the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, be presented to the commanding and other officers of the corps of artillery and engineers of the allied army, who sustained extraordinary fatigue and danger in their animated and gallant approaches to the lines of the enemy.

That general Washington be directed to communicate to the other officers and the soldiers under his command, the thanks of the United States in congress assembled, for their conduct and valour on this occasion.

**Resolved,** That the United States in congress assembled, will cause to be erected at York in Virginia, a marble column, adorned with emblems of the alliance between the United States and his Most Christian Majesty; and inscribed with a succinct narrative of the surrender of earl Cornwallis to his excellency general Washington, commander in chief of the combined forces of America and France; to his excellency the count de Rochambeau, commanding the auxiliary troops of his Most Christian Majesty in America; and his excellency the count de Grasse, commanding in chief the naval army of France in Chesapeake.

**Resolved,** That two stands of the colours taken from the British army under the capitulation of York be presented to his excellency general Washington in the name of the United States in congress assembled.

**Resolved,** That two pieces of field ordnance, taken from the British army under the capitulation of York, be presented, by the commander in chief of the American army, to count de Rochambeau; and that there be engraved thereon a short memorandum, that congress were induced to present them from considerations of the illustrious part which he bore in effectuating the surrender.

**Resolved,** That the secretary of foreign affairs be directed to request the minister plenipotentiary of his Most Christian Majesty, to inform his majesty, that it is the wish of congress, that count de Grasse may be permitted to accept a testimony of their approbation, similar to that to be presented to count de Rochambeau.

**Resolved,** That the board of war be directed to present to lieutenant-colonel Tilghman, in the name of the United States in congress assembled, a horse properly caparisoned, and an elegant sword, in testimony of their high opinion of his merit and ability.

November 7, 1781.

**Resolved,** That the secretary of foreign affairs be directed to prepare a sketch of emblems of the alliance between his Most Christian Majesty and the United States, proper to be inscribed on the marble column to be erected in the town of York, under the resolution of the 29th day of October last.

**Resolved,** That an elegant sword be presented, in the name of the United States in congress assembled,

to colonel Humphrey, aid de camp of general Washington, to whose care the standards taken under the capitulation of York were committed, in testimony of their opinion of his fidelity and ability; and that the board of war take order thereon.

Extract from the minutes,  
CHARLES THOMSON, secy.

## ANNA POLIS

In HOUSE OF DELEGATES, December 4, 1781.

On motion, the question was put, That the commissioners to preserve confiscated British property, and the treasures of the western shore, be authorized and directed to receive the bills of credit of the last emission at par with specie, in payment for any confiscated British property; but nothing herein contained shall be construed to extend to the contracts for, and sale of, Whetstone-point: The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Thomas appeared as follow.

Forrest,	Hawkins,	Beatty,
Chew,	Duckett,	Duval,
Dent,	Sney,	Wilson,
Jenifer,	Coursey,	Strall,
Stone,	Chafe,	Spring,
Ridgely,	Quynn,	Chapline,
Job,	Morris,	Bayly,
Brevard,		

## NEGATIVE.

Thomas,	S. Worthington,	Rowland,
Mills,	Maynadier,	Kent,
Tilden,	Hindman,	Wright,
N. Worthington,	Eccleston,	Smithson,
Hall,	Kirkman,	Burgess,
B. T. B. Worthington,	Miller,	Griffith,
Brogden,		

So it was resolved in the affirmative, and sent to the senate by Mr. Chew and Mr. Duckett.

William Hindman, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the said resolve, endorsed, "By the senate, December 4, 1781: Read and dissent to."

By order, J. MACCUBBIN, clk.

Extract from the minutes.

F. GREEN, clk.

This vote passed unanimously in the senate, the following members then attending, viz.

The honourable George Plater, Matthew Tilghman, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, John Smith, James M'Henry, Charles Carroll, barrister, Richard Barnes, William Hindman, Benedict Edward Hall, and Edward Lloyd, Esquires.

ST. ANNA POLIS, December 2, 1781.

**LAST** night was left at my stable, I suppose by mistake, a small strawberry roan gelding, about 13 and an half hands high, short mane and tail, branded on the near buttock N, and on the off something like XP. The owner is desired to prove property, pay charges, and take him away.

W. ARCHIBALD CHISHOLM.

By the COMMITTEE OF GRIEVANCES AND COURTS of JUSTICE, November 27, 1781.

**NOTICE** is hereby given, that this committee will sit at the stad-house from 12 o'clock till 3 on each day during the present session of assembly.

By order, GEO. RANKEN, clk.

Prince-George's county, November 15, 1781. To be sold at public sale, in Piscataway, on Tuesday the 18th of December next, for crop tobacco in notes of not less than 950 net, nor elder than twelve months,

**THE** estate of Dr. Joseph Adderton, deceased, consisting of sundry negroes, men, women, and children, also horses, hogs, sheep, and cattle, together with a variety of household furniture. Credit will be given for twelve months, on giving bond with good security, the interest to commence from the end of six months. At the same time will be sold for ready cash, the corn, tobacco, and small grain on the plantation.

J. X. W.



But being assured by your excellency's letters, that

Alexandria, November 12, 1781.  
Will be sold on the highest bidder, on Wednesday the 19th of December next, if fair, if not the next fair day, at the subscriber's plantation near Plicataway in Maryland,

**T**WENTY-FIVE likely young country boys and negroes, consisting of men, women, and children. It is necessary to observe, that these negroes are sold for no fault, and that they are equal to any negroes in the state; among whom are several likely young breeding women, well acquainted with cooking and all kind of house work. Also at the same time and place will be sold, horses, hogs, sheep, and cattle, of the very best kind, together with all kinds of plantation utensils. The above will be sold for ready tobacco or twelve months credit, at the option of the purchaser; if the latter, to be on bond with security. I have likewise to let, two very valuable plantations on Patuxent river, sufficient for ten or twelve hands to work, on which is sowed 25 bushels of small grain. On one of the said plantations is a very commodious and well fixed distillery, calculated for either brewing or distilling, with several fine stills and a large iron boiler, which I will rent or sell with the plantation. The terms may be known by applying to

WILLIAM LYLES, jun.

Office for confiscated estates, Annapolis, November 27, 1781.

**T**O be sold at vendue, the following property on the eastern shore, to wit: The several manors in Kent, Queen-Anne's, Dorchester, Somerset, and Worcester counties; also two lots and houses, two negroes, and other personal estate in the town of Oxford, in Talbot county, which belonged to Spiers, Mackie, and company, and Spiers, French, and company.

The sale of Kent manor will begin at Chester-town, on Monday the 7th of January next.

Queen-Anne's manor, at Church-hill, in Queen-Anne's county, on Monday the 14th of January next.

The houses and lots, and other property, which belonged to Spiers, Mackie, and company, &c. at Oxford, in Talbot county, on Friday the 18th of January next.

Nanticoke manor, at Vienna, in Dorchester county, on Monday the 21st of January next.

The manor lands in Somerset and Worcester, at Salisbury, on Friday the 25th of January next.

The whole sold for specie, or bills of credit emitted the 10th of May, 1781, to the actual value thereof. One third of the sum bid to be paid on the first day of September next, and the residue in two equal and annual payments thereafter. The purchasers giving bond on interest with two good securities.

J. O. BAXTER, clk.

Annapolis, November 27, 1781.

**A**NY person of a good character, who will go to Hanover court-house in Virginia, and bring from thence a couple of negroes belonging to the subscriber, and deliver them to her, shall be entitled to a reasonable reward, and may keep my plantation on the north side of South river as a security till the money be paid; or they may enter on it, tend it, and have the use of the fire-wood until by these means the debt be discharged.

ANNE TILLY.

**T**HERE is at the plantation of Joseph Spurr, living on Elk Ridge, Anne-Arundel county, taken up as a stray, an iron gray gelding, about 6 years old, branded on the near shoulder M.S. shod before, hanging mane, switch tail, 13 and an half hands high, paces, trots, and gallops. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.

2 w 3

November 1, 1781.

**W**ANTED AN OVERSEER. A SINGLEMAN, of a sober industrious character, that can be well recommended, will meet with good encouragement, by applying to the subscriber; who has to let a convenient tenement in good repair, about three miles from Annapolis.

WILLIAM THOMAS.

# STOP THE VILLAIN. FOURTEEN GUINEAS REWARD.

Prince-George's county, Carrollburg, October 31, 1781.

**W**AS taken by force, from a negro boy, the 21st of this month, on the road between Annapolis and the Governor's bridge, a bay horse, saddle and bridle, and rode off by a middle aged man, dressed in a short brownish coloured jacket, and overall trousers, and was seen cross Patuxent about three miles above the bridge, supposed to be a deserter, as he was seen on the road the Saturday before going towards Annapolis, and said he was discharged from the hospital at George-town. The horse is about 14 hands high, well made, and about 20 years old, branded on (I believe the off) buttock T H, shod before, the shoes far worn, he has a remarkable light trot, and a fast labouring gallop, frequently heaves his head when warmed in riding. The saddle about half worn, and has a much larger covered nail on the right side before than the other three, over a small rip in the seat from the flap. Whoever secures the villain, that he may be brought to justice and convicted thereof, and returns the horse and saddle to the subscriber, shall receive the above reward, or four guineas for the horse and saddle, and reasonable charges if brought home.

IGNATIUS FENWICK.

## LANDS FOR SALE.

**S**TRING ENLARGED, 644 acres, surveyed in January 1775, and certificate returned for 845 acres, examined and passed, by the name of *Head-Quarters*, but not patented, because of the war: part of *Mansell's United Friendship*, 359 acres; part of *Mansell's Purchase*, 1400 acres: *The Scheme*, 74 acres: these four tracts lie adjoining each other. Part of *Windsor-Forest*, 1136 acres; this tract lies about 4 miles from the above lands. All the tracts are called *Forest-land*; a considerable part of them is very good soil; each tract is very well watered, and there are on the whole about 300 acres of good meadow ground. There is little timber on the above tracts, except on the main western fork of the western, or Delaware, falls of Patuxent river, where enough may be procured to build tobacco houses; these lands lie near the great main road from Frederick-town to Baltimore, and between 25 and 30 miles from the latter, and in the neighbourhood of the late Mr. Samuel Mansell. *Refutation*, granted for 667 acres, of which about one half is clear of elder tracts; this land lies below *High-creek*, about 2 miles from Frederick-town, near one Solomon Turner's. In all about 4,147 acres. A reasonable price will be taken for the whole; if the tracts are sold separately, the price will be more or less, according to the quality and situation. The title to all the tracts is indisputable. Bond with security, for tobacco, or specie, with interest; or bills of credit of the last emission, at par with specie, will be taken in payment, and the lands immediately conveyed. Enquire of the printers. 10

November 23, 1781.

**O**N Wednesday the 21st inst. came within the enclosure of the subscriber, two sows, one black, the other white, neither of them have any visible mark, they were both with pig, and pigged in the stable of the subscriber the same night, great care hath been taken of them ever since. The owner or owners are requested to pay charges and take them away.

THOMAS GRAHAM.

**T**HERE is at the plantation of Joseph Penn, living near Snowden's iron-works, Anne-Arundel county, taken up as a stray, a bright bay gelding, 3 years old, hanging mane, switch tail, no perceivable brand, trots and gallops, has a small star and snip, about 13 and a half hands. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.

3 X w 3

**T**HERE is at the plantation of Fielder Bowin, near Nottingham, taken up as a stray, an unbroke iron gray filly, appears to be 1 year old, 23 and an half hands high, her off fore foot white, a blaze in her face, no perceivable brand. The owner is desired to prove property, pay charges, and take her away.

1 X w 3



## MARYLAND GAZETTE

T H U R S D A Y, D E C E M B E R 20, 1781.

THOUGHTS, on a plan for a New PAPER-MONEY, and for recovering a currency to our old emissions.

**L**ET us endeavour to simplify our money affairs, so as to make them understood by the people. A state, or government, issues bills of credit; and it pledges its faith, or sets apart certain property for their redemption. If the time for discharging the bills should be remote, and the circumstances of the country such as to hazard a perversion of the funds, the confidence of the people will be affected. Then a mistrust will be introduced, and from this moment men will set about changing their paper into a less doubtful property; and, hence will necessarily originate a competition which must carry the money through all the stages of depreciation.

The funds which this state has appropriated for the redemption of its bills of credit, were certainly sufficient in themselves, but the period for their redemption being remote gave room for the full operation of events. I am persuaded our citizens are not defective in the virtue of patriotism; but, the politician in forming his combinations, does not trust entirely to virtues. He will suppose that there may be among them, some who will make a point of getting rich, and others of securing their riches. In this light, the people are less to blame than their rulers. At least we must acknowledge, that the one has discovered more prudence, than the other has discernment.

The principal causes then why our currencies have failed, is a *mistrust* as to the funds remaining always subject to the disposal of government, combined with the remote period for their redemption. Under this state of matters, the road we should take is open and easy. The mistrust arose from the possible events of war. There are now in favour of the funds. But shall we therefore conclude, that the effects of this *mistrust* are to be suddenly removed. If there is a man who would attempt to remove them suddenly, and at the same time keep adding to our emissions as heretofore, he is either a magician or a mountebank. A credit once lost is not easily recalled. It is well known to men conversant in these subjects, that when the French bank notes in the year 1790, amounting to the sum of 462,316,410 livres were reduced to half their value, an *arrêt* of the duke of Orleans, raising them to their first denomination, had no kind of efficiency.

In thinking over the measures and expedients for the restoration of public credit, I have always said to myself, "You are no bankrupt, but you may be easily made one. You must have recourse to short payments if you would regain the confidence you may have lost; or, you must discover a symbol that can be instantly changed into the value it represents. If your debt is very large, or should you be only able to pay the creditors an interest, you must then be punctual to a day, and to a penny. As to the merchandise you have on hand, and which you seem anxious to circulate, you must not shut about the country after purchasers; purchasers must come without being sent for. In fine, the people must want your commodity before you can expect them to buy it."

But to gain a stability to our conclusions, let us take the quantity of paper-money, which we had in use previous to the revolution, and compare it with the quantity now in circulation and dormant.

The Maryland emissions of the years 1767, 1769, and 1774, in circulation, amounted to £.300,371 10 s. A part of this money passed into some of the neighbouring provinces, but we had an excess of theirs which might raise our paper medium to about £.400,000. I shall speak elsewhere to the quantity of our specie.

There is at this time in the hands of the people about £.45,000 of the emission of June 1780, about £.93,750 of state continental, and about £.70,000 of that called red-money. The difference therefore between the currencies employed in our trade and alienations, before the revolution and at this period (calculating upon these several amounts

at their passing value) is nearly as ONE to SEVEN †.

Who will pretend to say, understanding the capacity and circumstances of Maryland, that this sum, supposing for it the freest circulation, is in any wise adequate, to conduct even our present humbled trade? But we know that our trade from the nature of things, must be every day enlarging; and the call for a currency, of course, becoming every day more urgent. This is not however a proper authority upon which to found a repetition of old expedients. Our affairs require that the people should be left a little to themselves. After what has happened, after emission having followed emission, so fast as to leave them scarcely time to provide against their possible changes, one would believe that no great harm could arise from a few months serious reflection.

This suspension of emissions I conceive necessary, as a first step to remove that *mistrust* which we have considered as a principal cause of depreciation. Be patient ye reasoners! I see the dangers of an empty treasury. I hear the demands of a thousand creditors. Be assured, my friends, a desire to satisfy these demands, and to fill the treasury with money capable of answering your purposes, alone, makes me plead for a suspension. It cannot be long an empty treasury, should we pursue proper measures; but if we do not, it may be a treasury from whence will proceed all moral and political evils.

It may now be expected that I should expose my plan. I am willing to lay it before you, requesting only, that you will not judge of it rashly, or condemn it, because it may differ from your own.

Previously, however, I would intreat leave to indulge a few remarks on our supply bill for the year 1782, as its frame and operation may either render the plan eligible or nugatory. If the revenue for 1782, is to be produced wholly from a tax in kind, I would observe, that the unavoidable losses in the collection of such taxes, and the number of hands and changes through which they usually pass, before they can serve the public calls, will reduce their result far below the first calculation. In other words, a tax in specifics, estimated to raise £.400,000 may not, under the best possible management, bring into the treasury, or net more than £.200,000. This should be well considered in the formation of bills for such taxes. But however well it may be considered, to render them sufficiently productive, it will be necessary to make them intolerably burthensome. A wise government, therefore, will only adopt a tax in kind, when it has no other alternative; and will use every endeavour to lessen this evil by returning as fast as possible to a tax upon the symbol of property.

This has its force with me, among other reasons, for calling your attention to a plan, which comprehends, in my opinion, a very essential relief to all our embarrassments. I would render a tax in kind less necessary, because, as we have suggested, it is the most grievous one to the subject, and the most unproductive one to government. I would give you a currency to act upon, which the arts of the wily projector could not precipitate. I would recal the confidence of the people to those which have assisted in rearing our independence. I would give the farmer and merchant a substantial representative for carrying on their respective alienations. And, I would offer a security to all orders of the state, who might chuse to make it their debtor, in which they could have no possible distrust.

I propose then to create one hundred thousand pounds specie in the following manner. Let us lay one dollar on every hundred pounds property in the state, which will realise about forty thousand pounds. We will then dispose of the confiscated property allotted for the redemption of the red-money, which remains unissued, to the amount of forty thousand pounds more; and out of the sales of a certain part of our specific taxes, we will compass the remaining twenty thousand pounds.

I propose also putting the whole management of the sales of these articles by an act of the general assembly into the hands of a single man, to whom the result of the specie tax is to be paid as soon as collected ‡. I propose to invest this man or a few men with a power of issuing notes or bills to the

amount of their specie; these bills to be further guaranteed by a solemn act of the state. I propose that they should receive the specie deposits of individuals, making a transfer of bills to their amounts. I propose that they should issue bills on proper securities, or mortgages, for the furtherance of trade and industry. In all this I make it a directing principle, that these bills are to be immediately paid when carried to the office. If we suppose the people to turn them in after a short trial, and to draw out their specie, it is only beginning anew, by ordering the money back in taxes. Or in case (which is much more likely to happen) the general assembly should find it convenient to increase the capital of this deposit, it is only to direct some fresh appropriations. Here then is the plan; I claim no merit from its newness; for it is new only, as it respects the state of our affairs, and the state of Maryland. If I am understood, I need not go into a deeper detail; it is easy to supply what remains; and, if I am not, a further detail, I fear, would be attended with little advantage.

It is necessary however to shew what effect the execution of this plan might have upon our currencies. Perhaps there is no political truth more evident than that this state cannot be either rich or extensively industrious without a paper-money. By introducing a paper, the value of which cannot be diminished, you attract a certain confidence to all your other currencies. We will suppose that one half only of the proposed capital for the new bills can be completed in six months. But this one half I assert, will be of more service to the public, than three hundred times the quantity of paper now in the state. In this interval, or before these new bills can be issued, the people reasoning upon their real situation, will perceive the full reliance they should have on the funds for the redemption of their old money. It will then be handled less cautiously; or may be circulated to its first value, by an easy operation with the new bills. Convinced by the suspension of emissions, that government intend only what is honest; and becoming sensible of the inconveniences of barter, the people will find it absolutely necessary to have some medium of exchange in addition to gold and silver. Then, and not till then, their wants being alike, a likeness will be produced in their reasonings, and a belief in the usefulness of the currencies which they have despised, will arise out of their wants. The very necessity of employing a thing serves to give it a better character.

Let us now spend a few moments on the ability of the state for such an undertaking. It was when the republic of Holland was in her infancy, and when the only coin of her citizens, was that of the Spaniards their late masters, the first deposit was made in their since so celebrated treasury of Amsterdam. But I already hear it urged that there is not even specie enough in the country upon which to found the moderate tax of one dollar in the hundred pounds. There are assertions which one is often at a loss how to answer. I hear them daily without their producing conviction. When a man tells me gravely, that he has not seen so pounds specie in his neighbourhood for several years past, I can afford him my full belief. But when he says there is not that sum in his neighbourhood, I endeavour not to laugh, but I am tempted to ask him, how it has made its escape; and where it is gone to, provided he thinks it was ever there. Why is it that men will attempt to deceive each other? Do we not all know what a hoarding and heaping up of specie took place, from the very birth of our continental money? And have we not seen among us, even purchasers and gleaners of half-pence. This avidity, this search after gold and silver, was almost every where prevalent. So much so, that I will venture to say, many a farmer has added to his old quantity. But, surely it must be in every ones memory, that our gold and silver retired very early from this contest; for we had hardly taken up arms against Great-Britain, when we declared war against it.

But it is further urged that the merchant lent all our specie to the West-Indies or Europe. I assert in turn, that what he exported was from the stock he had on hand, when the continental money appeared; and, that, when this failed him, he vainly attempted to draw from the farmer; and I appeal to the merchant. No one I presume will suppose that our specie was confined to his coffers. It is the merchant also who can enlighten us further on this subject. We had about £.400,000 of

\* To establish a currency for such money as we are speaking of, one must avoid doing any thing which makes it the interest only of a few to produce depreciation. It is more likely to keep near its value, when every one has an equal interest in its depreciation. In certain cases interest unites, in others, divides.

† If our credit and specie were considered it would give a trade equal to two millions of specie.

‡ He must not however be permitted to hazard the specific taxes in a precarious traffic from the idea of increasing his capital.



provincial paper money in circulation in the year 1774. I have taken great pains to inform myself what proportion our specie bore to our paper, and I am well assured from the examination, that about two thirds of our commercial transactions were adjusted in gold and silver. If so, we had at the commencement of the war about £ 800,000. After what has been said, I ask not where this is to be found. I leave the fact to speak for itself. For my own part, I am persuaded, admitting of what may be called reasonable reductions, we shall find still enough for our purpose. In the next place,

If we advert to the operations of trade, we shall discover in its duties alone, a source of substantial revenue. I have observed that the trade of this state will be every day on the increase. We have the most flattering prospects on all sides to support this opinion. Staples in abundance for the market, and a navigation from which there is every thing to be expected. If we even had less specie now than at the beginning of the war, this would soon give us more. And it is impossible for traders to grow rich without enriching the whole state, especially when their exports must be procured from the soil. There is nothing more certain, should the freedom of navigation continue which we now enjoy, than increasing as much specie to the farmer in one year, as will pay his taxes for five.

But it is time to dismiss the subject. If any one has a better scheme to propose, I will consider it with that candour and patience of review, which I have requested for mine. And let him not be ashamed to have it done; for what is good for the people, cannot be improper for a newspaper.

Annapolis, December 1781.

*The plates signed A CORRESPONDENT, and A REPUBLICAN, are come to hand.*

**CHATHAM, December 5.**

**T**HE London fleet will sail from New-York in about eight days. Lord Cornwallis goes home in the Robust, and general Arnold and his family in the Edward, a 20 gun ship.

**TRENTON, December 5.**

The king of Prussia has acceded to the system of the armed neutrality, and the northern seas are in consequence full of vessels under Prussian colours. This is an excellent cover for the Dutch, and they are profiting by it to some purpose. The English fret and chafe, but they dare not meddle. Frederick the third has long had an inclination to round his dominions by annexing Hanover to them, and an insult upon his flag would be an injury and grievance of sufficient magnitude on which to declare war. A good stroke of policy; and which has spread his colours all over the adjoining seas, and made him a maritime power in a day.

*Extract of a letter from an officer of rank in the American army, dated Fifth, November 16, 1781.*

"After a jaunt of some fatigue to the northward I have taken up my quarters here until further orders. The enemy in that department advanced one body of about 2500 men through Lake Champlain to Lake George; these were commanded by colonel St. Leger, and another of 600 under his command of major Ross, by Oswego and the Oneida Lake to the Oneida Creek; and left their boats under a small guard, then proceeded by Cherry valley towards Schoharie, but turning to the left, fell on Warren's bush, burnt about 20 houses, crossed the Mohawk near fort Hunter, and proceeded to Johnstown, where they were soon after attacked by colonel Willes, with about 600 men, who, after a variety of fortune, drove them from the ground, and the next morning pursued them and continued it, with a number of favourable incidents, for several days, until the want of provision and other circumstances made it prudent for him to return. This party of the enemy must have lost at least 150 in prisoners, killed and deserters; the accounts of particulars I have from time to time received amount to that number, and from the nature of a long pursuit, many of the wounded and dead escaped the notice of the pursuers. Willes left this party about 20 miles north of Lake Oneida, in a most miserable condition; four days they had nothing but half a pound of horse-flesh per man per day, and a march before them of at least ten days to get to any place where they could expect relief.

St. Leger's party, after displaying a variety of manoeuvres about Ticonderoga and Lake George, finding the country alarmed, and a formidable body of continental troops as well as militia assembled to receive them at fort Anne, fort Edward, Whitekill and Saratoga, without any encouraging intelligence from Sir Henry Clinton, and the weather beginning to be severely cold, thought proper to retire about the 2d instant; but the winds proved so very adverse, that they had proceeded no farther than Chienney-point on the 8th instant; and as the winds and weather have not been more favourable since, I think it not improbable they have been ob-

liged to abandon their boats, cannon, and heavy baggage, and attempt a retreat into Canada by land, in a condition not less pitiable than Ross and his party. Thus endeth the northern part of Sir Henry's grand expedition, which lord George Germain says was so highly approved by his majesty. Sir Henry, I believe, was to have proceeded up Hudson's river, while general Powell, who was at Niagara in September, was to have proceeded by Lake Erie, Presque Isle, and rivers Duaf, to the back parts of Pennsylvania and Virginia, and lord Cornwallis to have operated in the lower parts, and so to have made good lord George's assertion, that the rebels were confined to the east side of the Hudson. Luckily for him, perhaps, he will now have it to say, that the unexpected arrival of a superior French fleet, and the unforeseen movements of general Washington, have frustrated all their designs. May they be eternally disappointed."

**PHILADELPHIA, December 11.**

By the arrival of the eastern post yesterday, we have a very important piece of intelligence, brought by a gentleman who arrived at Morristown from Boston. This gentleman says that he left Boston just after the arrival of a cutter at that place from Europe, with advice from M. de la Motte Piquet, informing that the combined fleet had taken, in the British channel, the Princess Royal of 98 guns, 3 frigates, and 83 homeward bound West-India merchantmen, under convoy of those men of war. We have no particulars of this interesting news, but expect that the next advices from Boston will inform us more fully.

**Office for confiscated estates, Annapolis, December 12, 1781.**

**A**T Snow-hill, in Worcester county, on Wednesday the 30th of January next, will be sold for specie, or continental bills of credit emitted in this state to the actual value of specie, several valuable slaves, some stock and farming utensils, late the property of Dr. Henry Stevenson. Also an estate for the joint lives of Dr. Stevenson and Mrs. Stevenson, in the following tracts of land: Blachin-hurst, containing 203 acres; part of Collick-moore, 82 acres; Cade's Contrivance, 28 acres; Edward's Garden-plot, 83 acres; Timber grove, 99 acres; and an unimproved lot in Snow-hill. One third of the sum bid to be paid on the first day of September 1782, the remainder in two equal yearly payments thereafter. Purchasers to give bond for interest, with two good securities.

By order, **J. BAXTER, clk.**

**Queen-Anne's county, December 13, 1781.**

**A**LL persons indebted to the estate of Thomas Fitzsimons, Esq; late of Queen Anne's county, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment, and those who have legal demands against it to apply to

**JOHN RYER BLAKE, executor.**

**THREE POUNDS SPECIE REWARD.**

**S**UPPOSED to be run away, or taken away, from the subscriber, living near Bellair, in Prince-George's county, on the 11th of November, a negro fellow named James, about 24 years old, 5 feet 5 inches high; had on when he went away an old cap, old great coat cut short and much darned, black coat, yellow waistcoat, full cloth breeches, the fore part brown the hind part lightish, blue yarn stockings and old shoes. Whoever takes up said fellow, or secures him so that I may get him again, shall receive the above reward, and reasonable charges if brought home, paid by

**MARY CLARKE.**

**Annapolis, December 18, 1781.**

**S**TOLEN, last Sunday morning, a dark roan horse, about 14 hands high, not branded, his two hind feet a little white, has a remarkable welling between the knee and the ankle of the right fore foot, shod before, paces, trots and gallops; had on a saddle almost new and an old bridle. The person who is suspected of having stolen him goes by the name of William Johnson, says he came from the eastern shore, and probably may have taken the horse over the bay. He is a short well set man, has black eyes and hair, had on a country cloth coat, a pair of chequed trousers, a corded jacket, and a felt hat almost new. Whoever will bring the said horse to the subscriber, living near Bladensburg, Prince-George's county, or to Richard Tyets in Annapolis, shall receive a reward of two guineas, and the like sum on conviction of the thief, paid by

**JOHN HAMILTON.**

**A**LL persons indebted to the estate of Thomas Rutland, late of Anne-Arundel county, deceased, are desired to make immediate payment. And all those having claims against the said estate, are requested to make them known, to

**JOSEPH HOWARD, jun. executor.**

**Calvert county, December 20, 1781.**

**A**LL persons indebted to the estate of Charles Grahame, late of Calvert county, deceased, are desired to come and discharge the same to the subscriber. And those who have claims against the said estate, are requested to bring them in to be adjusted and settled.

**ASINETH GRAHAME, administratrix.**

**By the COMMITTEE of GRIEVANCES and COURTS of JUSTICE, November 27, 1781.**

**N**OTICE is hereby given, that this committee will sit at the said house from 12 o'clock till 2 on each day during the present session of assembly.

By order, **GEO. RANKEN, clk.**

**Office for confiscated estates, Annapolis, November 27, 1781.**

**T**O be sold at vendue, the following property on the eastern shore, to wit: The several manors in Kent, Queen-Anne's, Dorchester, Somerset, and Worcester counties; also two lots and houses, two negroes, and other personal estate in the town of Oxford, in Talbot county, which belonged to Spiers, Mackie, and company, and Spiers, French, and company.

The sale of Kent manor will begin at Chestertown, on Monday the 7th of January next.

Queen-Anne's manor, at Church-hill, in Queen-Anne's county, on Monday the 14th of January next.

The houses and lots, and other property, which belonged to Spiers, Mackie, and company, &c. at Oxford, in Talbot county, on Friday the 25th of January next.

Nanticoke manor, at Vienna, in Dorchester county, on Monday the 21st of January next.

The manor lands in Somerset and Worcester, at Salisbury, on Friday the 28th of January next.

The whole sold for specie, or bills of credit emitted the 10th of May, 1781, to the actual value thereof. One third of the sum bid to be paid on the first day of September next, and the residue in two equal and annual payments thereafter. The purchasers giving bond on interest with two good securities.

**J. BAXTER, clk.**

**STOP THE VILLAIN.**

**FOURTEEN GUINEAS REWARD.** Prince-George's county, Carrollburg, October 11, 1781.

**W**AS taken by force, from a negro boy, the 11th of this month, on the road between Annapolis and the Governor's bridge, a bay horse, saddle and bridle, and rode off by a middle sized man, dressed in a short brownish coloured jacket, and overall trousters, and was seen cross Patuxent about three miles above the bridge, supposed to be a deserter, as he was seen on the road the Saturday before going towards Annapolis, and said he was discharged from the hospital at George-town. The horse is about 14 hands high, well made, and about 10 years old, branded on (I believe the off) buttock T H, shod before, the shoes far worn, he has a remarkable light trot, and a fast labouring gallop, frequently heaves his head when warmed in riding. The saddle about half worn, and has a much larger covered nail on the right side before than the other three, over a small rip in the seat from the flap. Whoever secures the villain, that he may brought to justice and convicted thereof, and returns the horse and saddle to the subscriber, shall receive the above reward, or four guineas for the horse and saddle, and reasonable charges if brought home.

**IGNATIUS FENWICK.**

**T**HERE is at the plantation of Gerard B. Cauffman, Esq; in Charles county, taken up as a stray, by Josias Boswell, overseer to said Cauffman a dark brown mare with a small blaze in her face reddish about the nose, dimly branded on the near buttock apparently thus, N C, about 13 hands high, is a little rubbed with the saddle, and appears to be 8 years of age. The owner is desired to prove his property, pay for the same, and take her away.

**T**HERE is at the plantation of Joseph Spurr, Esq; living on Elk Ridge, Anne-Arundel county, taken up as a stray, an iron gray gelding about 4 years old, branded on the near shoulder H S, shod before, hanging mane, switch tail, and an half hands high, paces, trots, and gallops. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.

**WANTED AN OVERSEER.**

**A**SINGLEMAN, of a sober industrious character, that can be well recommended, will meet with good encouragement, by applying to the subscriber, who has to let a convenient tenement in good repair, about three miles from Annapolis.

**WILLIAM THOMAS.**



# MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1781.

## TO THE PRINTERS.

THE following dialogue was put into my hands by a learned acquaintance, who said he translated it from a Greek manuscript he found amongst some loose papers in an old library. Whether the conversation really happened in the Elysian Fields, or whether it was the work of some mortal amongst us, neither he, nor myself, were able to determine. The country, and people alluded to in it, perhaps may be imaginary, but I rather think they had a real existence, and that their history by some accident or other has been destroyed. My reason for this opinion is, because there appears so strong a representation of genuine character in it, and so little of fancy. It is true there will be some difficulty, if it be real, to account for its appearance here, but as this is a point I acknowledge myself incapable of solving, I must submit it entirely to the reader; with this remark only, that such things have heretofore made their appearance in our world, but how they got there, he will be better able perhaps to account for than you.

## CORRESPONDENT.

### SOLOON, LYCURGUS, and ÆSOP.

**Solo.** Prythee Æsop where hast thou been this many a day? We have had such a dull time of it here since you left us, that a stranger would rather suspect from our melancholy countenances, that this was the retreat of sorrow, than the region of happiness, and pleasure.

**Lycurgus.** Come unpack, unpack.—In the old way I suppose—upon some drollery I'll warrant you.

**Æsop.** Faith my old lady I have had a rare time of it, since I saw you. You politicians! you legislators! Why I have been to a country, where you daren't shew your beards. It is true old Greece made some fuss about you, and perhaps you did tolerably well for the mad-caps of Athens, and the formal dons of Sparta; but where I have been they think no more of you, and your divine institutions, as they are called, than they do of an old ballad, or the tale of a superannuated grannam. Why every mother's son of 'em is born a politician, and a legislator there; ay, I say, born a legislator. They go to it as naturally as a hound to the chase, or a goose to the water; ay, faith, and use as little reflection top. You shall see them sit down to make laws with as little thought, nay I don't know but with much less, than they do to a beef-steak or an apple-pudding. In our days it was thought necessary to prepare oneself by a course of study to go about that kind of business; but there's nothing of that sort there; no, nothing more is necessary than just sufficient instruction to enable them to read a newspaper, and to write their names; they are then qualified to enter the lists as orators, and legislators; and truly they make a striking figure in both ways.

**Lycurgus.** But pray let us know something more of this strange country. Where does it lie? and how did you get to it? I should like to be acquainted with some of their principles, and institutions, and by what means they accomplish such mighty matters with so much ease, and so naturally, as you term it.

**Æsop.** Their principles, and institutions! Why man you must not suppose, because you could not hit a peg without six'd principles, that they are in the same hobble. Their principles are like their coats, they take off, or put on, as occasion requires, and are both regulated by similar circumstances. They have this great advantage, they are of such a cut that they never impede their progress, be it either with or against the wind; and are of so excellent a texture, that you may wear them, or throw them off, without any sensible inconvenience, in any weather. Now this is a refinement in principles, which your worships were entirely ignorant of, and by the bye is not easily to be accounted for. In this particular, I speak it with all due deference, lies the grand defect of your very wise institutions. Whatever object you had in view, it was sure to be hamper'd with some principle or other, and could not be brought about; according to your doctrine, but by means perfectly consonant to it. If you made a solemn promise in the face of the world, you held that you were obliged to comply with the terms of it, let the inconvenience of a compliance, or the advantages that might be derived from a violation of it, be ever so great. This was the occasion of many difficulties to you and your countrymen, but they are happily obviated by the people I am speaking of. They have brought that matter to such a pitch of perfection, that they

can calculate to a fraction, how far they are bound to comply with their engagements; for this always, and very justly, depends upon a variety of circumstances, such as the times, place, their convenience, the persons to whom they are bound, and the like.

**Lycurgus.** I must really confess these are principles, I am totally unacquainted with. But come, give us some account of your journey. How did you get amongst these surprising people? and how did you contrive to get acquainted with their affairs?

**Æsop.** Why you must know, that falling in company with Mercury the last time he came down with a message from Jove to these parts, I ask'd him what was stirring in the upper regions? what was the latest news in those parts? and how matters went with our once brother mortals on the earth? His godship I fancy had taken a hearty sup of nectar before he set out from above, which made him very communicative. After telling me a great many strange matters, I am going, said he, before I return home, an errand to the new world, as it is called; where if you have a mind, you may be an eye-witness to some of the uncommon things, I have been relating to you. I took him at his word, so after finishing his business in this quarter we set out. He took to his wings, and I embracing his two buttocks with my arms, was safely convey'd to our journey's end.

**Solo.** By my troth a pretty easy mode of travelling. Well, now let us know what follow'd.

**Æsop.** Prythee have a little patience; give me but time, and you shall have my whole budget; you know I am not much given to keep secrets. Well then, it was my very good fortune to take land at that critical period, when the grand assembly of lawmakers of a large state were just convened. Heavens what a sight! I think it was some prince or ambassador, who fancy'd when he saw the Roman senate, that he was in the presence of an assembly of gods. What would he have said had he been in my place? he might have ransack'd heaven and earth in vain for a simile. You know I was once tolerably well acquainted with the world, and was not apt to be confounded tho' in the company of kings and princes. But I don't know how it happen'd; either the novelty of the matter, or the grandeur of the sight, affected my senses in so instantaneous, and surprising a manner, that tho' only a spiritual substance, therefore not so liable to those sensations as when in a carnal state, yet it was with the utmost difficulty I cou'd retain the use of my faculties; however by degrees I came to, and after a few hours was so well recover'd; that I was able to bear the sight without hazarding a relapse. I remember it was the boast of old Rome, that she borrow'd her dictators, and statesmen, from the plough. In this particular she is far outdone now. I'll warrant ye the odds are more than forty to one; such a happy change has taken place in the terrestrial world! I cannot undertake to give you a circumstantial account of the characters, that composed this august body, now. nor of all the matters that were agitated amongst them whilst I was there. Tho' all were excellent in their kind, yet I cou'd perceive a difference; some were more craftily qualified than others, that is, were more highly impregnated with that rare spirit of nature, which so remarkably distinguishes this people from any I had ever beheld or heard of before. Athens may boast of her Demosthenes, Rome of her Cicero, but give me a ——— or a ———; nay I cou'd name you a score more such.

**Lycurgus.** What! Are orators to plenty then, that you count them by scores?

**Æsop.** Ay truly, providence has been very bountiful in that particular too. She has furnished them of all dimensions; as long winded or laconic as you please; indeed I much question whether your celebrated Spartans excelled some of them in this latter talent; the multum in parvo is truly descriptive of their ejaculations; and I was happily so-placed, that I lost not a particle of these precious morsels. Being invisible to eyes of flesh from my spiritual nature, and not sensible to the touch of matter, I cou'd go where I pleas'd without being incommoded myself, or incommoding others; this gave me an excellent opportunity of noting all that pass'd. The first business, that was taken in hand after my arrival amongst them, was the choice of their first magistrate. It seems this act had been omitted on the day appointed by the constitution of the state; it therefore became a question whether it could be done at all afterwards, as the constitutional rule had not been observed; this occasioned a long

and learned debate, in which the matter was handled with the utmost skill, and acuteness, particularly by the opposers of the measure. One amongst them, I remember, advanced many arguments that were uncommonly forcible, and curious, and proposed an expedient equally sagacious, and new, but all to no purpose, for the question was carried for the opposite opinion. The next thing was the choice of the grand executive council. Now I thought I shou'd be able to get some insight into the affairs of government; for as a heavy charge was brought against the members of the old council, I expected their proceedings would be over-look'd, and their administration publicly examined, but to my great disappointment, and surprise, I found the matter was dropp'd. I confess this stagger'd me not a little, and I had very nearly doubted the wisdom and virtue of this august body; but their former conduct recurring to my mind, and the distinguished character of the member, who moved the charge, but did not prosecute it, undoubtedly for very wise tho' unknown reasons, I became easily reconciled to the omission. The last affair of consequence I shall mention now, was the appointment of persons to represent the state in a grand council, composed of representatives from a number of other states, which with this formed one great republic. Now, said I to myself, shall I see some of the first characters this most extraordinary country produces; for as the peculiar situation of their affairs required the most able heads in the land, I consequently expected to see such named for the most difficult charge they had to confer. Accordingly the nomination began, and proceeded so rapidly, that I cou'd not help exclaiming to myself, "What a rare country is this, where they so readily find men capable of filling the most important employments, that can fall to the charge of human beings!" I contrived to get a sight of these distinguished characters, which instantly bringing to my remembrance the old adage, "Fronti nulla sudes," I came away well assured of their profound abilities, and uncommon sagacity.

**Solo.** Truly, friend Æsop, you seem mightily wrapt up in this strange, new people; but methinks you have given us no instances yet of the profound abilities, and uncommon sagacity, you speak of in such rapturous terms.

**Æsop.** Nay, I don't know what you may call instances. I am satisfied I have mentioned only a few of their acts, which alone are sufficient to immortalize them; but if these won't content you, perhaps I may at some other opportunity relate some things to you, which will put the matter past a doubt. Their money, my old boy! there's their fort. In this single article, they have gone beyond the power of magic itself. No magician, or necromancer, with all his art, can equal them. Such is their power over a small piece of paper of about three inches square, that they can make it assume more shapes in a few hours, than old Proteus did in the whole course of his existence. It shall now be gold; now silver; nay both at the same instant. In a moment it shall cease to exist; with a dash of the pen it is revived. It is now more; now less; and yet always the same. This amazing power has been exercised with infinite advantage to the state; for by a single touch, and a few words, which have a high magical virtue in them, it becomes ten, twenty, thirty, forty times larger, and yet continues perfectly the same in matter and size; so that they can at a word encrease, or diminish it to suit every occasion, that may happen. This is a rare improvement in politics, and worth the whole art besides. It is true such sudden changes have occasioned some confusion at times, which will ever be the case in affairs of this nature; but the immense gains derived to the society from so valuable an art, richly compensate for any transitory evils, that may flow from the practice of it. Besides, as it is wisely ordained by Providence, that every evil shall work its own cure, by a gradual extinction of the ill principle it contains; so these disorders spend themselves by degrees, and, to make ample amends for the ills they have occasioned, terminate in giving existence to a being, unknown to the good folks of our days, called a *financier*. It is no easy matter to describe the character, and qualities of this being; though he arises out of confusion, yet he contains within himself every principle of order; he is a perfect counterpart to the occasion, that calls him to life. He is a thorough adept in the art of simplifying, and is so strongly addicted to the practice of it, that he never fails to instill into all his projects the genuine spirit of that quality; moreover,



nature has endowed him with so strong a scent, that if there be a hoard of gold in the land, he is sure to smell it out; and do but put it in his hands, he will promise you, nay, and prove it too by invincible argument, that while it lasts, the nation shall never want credit, nor the treasury money. From these few circumstances you may form some judgment of the profound skill, and immense utility, of this character; but you must be satisfied at present with what I have told you, for I assure you I am not a little fatigued with my jaunt; Mercury being in a plaguy hurry, whisk'd me along at such a rate through the air, that I really feel my pericranium disorder'd.

*Selen.* Why to say the truth, I think it does appear to be somewhat out of order; but a little rest will make all well again; then, I hope, we shall catch you in a humour to give us the remainder of these extraordinary matters.

*Sir, you will be pleased to publish the following remarks on Z's plan for a new money.*

Annapolis, December 24, 1781.

**A**s the thoughts which the writer under the signature of Z has submitted to the public, appear to me to deserve its attention, I would offer a few remarks on the same subject.

I lay it down as a principle, that, either the appreciation or depreciation of our present paper currencies, will be unstable, precarious, and delusory, till we make a provision which we have not yet attempted; or, until we introduce a money on the basis proposed in last week's paper.

I have bestowed some thoughts on producing a quantity of specie competent to the quarterly discharge of all interests upon paper money or loans, and I find that it will take as much specie for this purpose, as would lay the foundation for a bank.

I have enquired into the sum of specie which will be necessary for our quota of the expences of the war, and our own governmental demands; and, I have discovered, that this sum would lay the foundation of a bank.

In either case then we must raise a sum in specie; so that the question is, shall we employ it in the establishment of a bank. I conclude in the affirmative; and I support the conclusion, upon the great advantages to be derived to the state from a bank; and, because, unless we can create a currency equivalent to specie, the following consequences may be expected.

1<sup>st</sup>. An insufficient medium for trade and alienations will check industry, in proportion as it is defective. I believe no one will say, the medium now employed is sufficient for the trade of Maryland.

2<sup>dly</sup>. An insufficient medium for trade and alienations, will occasion a diminution in the consumption of our imports, and a proportional decrease in the demand for wheat, flour, tobacco, &c.

3<sup>dly</sup>. The demand for these staples diminishing, the value of land will also diminish.

4<sup>thly</sup>. There being no proportional increase of income, with the increase of taxes, the farmer, the planter, the merchant, and the artisan, will find their property gradually melted down in taxes.

5<sup>thly</sup>. If it is a just observation that specific taxes do not bring into the treasury more than one half their valuation; and should our assessment for the ensuing year be for £.300,000, we shall be obliged to raise specifics for 1783 to the amount of £.450,000 (including the deficiency of 1782). But in order to bring this sum into the treasury it will be necessary to load the people with a specific tax for the year 1783 equal to £.900,000.

These are among the evils of a defective medium, or a medium not the exact representative of gold and silver.

These are among the evils of a tax in kind, from which we should use our best endeavours to be delivered.

Now as we cannot answer the requisitions of congress with specie; as we cannot render our taxes in kind applicable to the purposes of government, before their conversion into specie; and, as we cannot remove the evils of a specific tax, but by the introduction of a money which may obtain the full confidence of the people, and, which may itself be taxed; I would think this specie could not be better employed than in the establishment of a state bank. Without the intervention of a ledger-main this bank instantly answers the most essential objects of government. It gives us a paper that will circulate; that will not be locked up for its interest; that will pay the interest of all our certificates, raise soldiers, and remove every interior want of the state.

It is only to cavil if we say this plan interferes with the general bank. Let us examine the matter and we will find it forwarding its operations: I am convinced the whole trade of the union cannot be provided with a medium from the general bank; and that other banks at convenient distances will

be found supplementary. Either these must be established, or the great bank must erect offices in every state where its notes may be realized. It is the opinion of a writer of the first distinction in these matters; that, in addition to the national bank of England, very considerable advantages would arise from the establishment of subaltern ones throughout the kingdom.

But it is the true policy of Maryland to institute a bank of her own. I never will see her, and not complain, give up a privilege, or a right to the sovereign power of the confederacy, which must lessen her own welfare without adding to that of the whole. Should Maryland rely on the Philadelphia bank, she must either be drained of her specie, or she must pledge her property for the bills she receives. In this case (excepting where individuals become subscribers) we shall pay interest to Philadelphia for our own money. I am persuaded that congress had not fully considered this subject when they recommended a monopoly which was to operate only in favour of a particular state or description of men.

Taking it therefore for granted, that it is our real policy to establish a bank, I would beg leave to suggest one of its operations with the government.

I will suppose the several collectors at stated periods, say four times a year, while the taxes continue to be paid in specifics, to make their returns to the commissary of their collections, detailing the quantity, kind, and place of deposit; the commissary to make an entry of the return, and transmit the return to the treasury; the treasurer to make a similar entry, and send the return to one of the council, whose particular duty it should be to superintend this part of the administration. If the assembly has anticipated any of its taxes, by borrowing from the bank, the superintending councilor will give the bank an order for such proportion of the taxes, as may be adequate to the discharge of the debt; or he may direct the commissary to dispose of them and deposit the result in the treasury from whence it may be transferred to the bank.

It is in order to give greater facility to these operations that I would restrict their superintendence to a single councilor, who should lay, once a year, before the general assembly an account of our revenue and disbursements; proposing at the same time, such alterations as might appear calculated to suppress mismanagements, or to improve the revenue. I give this power to one of the council, because he should be responsible for this department, and because a thorough access to, and knowledge of, all the several transactions of the executive will be necessary for his information; and therefore his powers should be interwoven with those of the governor and council.

This would throw our revenue into system. The assembly would then meet to read the accounts of the state, which would contain an exact register of her debts, the proceedings of her collectors, her commissary, and all those officers concerned in the receipt or disposal of her taxes. Every man would then be a judge of what was to be done for the next year, and the great business of this session would become an affair of a few days.

In these remarks I suppose my readers men of sense, and acquainted with the nature of banks. But if they should not have attended to their effects upon a nation, I would request them to consider the present state of Scotland, with what it was before the establishment of banks. The author I have already quoted, says "I can point out their utility in no way so striking as to recal to mind the surprising effects of Mr. Law's bank established in France, at a time when there was neither money or credit in the kingdom. The superior genius of that man produced in two years time the most surprising effects imaginable; he revived industry; he established confidence; and shewed to the world that while the landed property of a nation is in the hands of the inhabitants; and while the lower classes are willing to be industrious, money never can be wanting."

\* Sir James Stewart.

December 19, 1781.

**T**HIS is to give notice to all whom it may concern, that the property of James Browne, jun. deceased, in the house of Cunningsham, Findlay, and Browne, belongs to the estate of Priscilla Browne, late of Queen-Anne's county, deceased, and that I will support the claim of said estate as soon as I can obtain the proper vouchers.

ROBERT BROWNE, executor of Priscilla Browne.

A FEW copies of the LAWS of MARYLAND, passed last session of assembly, may be had at the Printing-office.

To be sold to the highest bidder, on Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of January 1782, if fair, if not the next fair day, at the subscriber's plantation near Broad-creek, Prince-George's county, Maryland, for tobacco,

**T**WENTY-FOUR or five likely country born negroes, consisting of men, women, boys, and girls; among them a carpenter, a cook, and three valuable house servants. Also a flourishing stock of horses, black cattle, sheep, and hogs, some of the horses blooded. Also nine years of a lease of 500 acres of very fine land, well improved lying within three miles of the town of Alexandria. Also sundry plantation utensils, consisting of a new ox-cart with three yoke of oxen, ploughs, axes, hoes, &c. Twelve months credit without interest will be given with bond and approved security. The sale to begin at 11 o'clock.

JOHN ADDISON.

To be sold to the highest bidder, on Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of January, 1782, at the plantation of col. John Addison, near Broad-creek, Prince-George's county, Maryland, three miles from the town of Alexandria, for tobacco,

**T**HE beautiful thorough bred horse ROEBUCK, he is a fine blood bay, 15 hands an inch and an half high, rising four years old, and was got by Benjamin Dulany, Esquire's, Othello, who was bred by William Fitzhugh, Esq. of Chatham, and got by Old Fearnought upon a thorough bred Morton's Traveller mare; Roebuck's dam was got by col. Taffer's Othello, who was got by Crab, his grand-dam by Morton's Traveller, his great grand-dam was col. Taffer's famous Selima, who was got by the Godolphin Arabian. Twelve months credit without interest will be given with bond and approved security.

JOHN ADDISON.

**T**AKEN up in the bay between Luff-point and Sandy-point, a small two mast sailing boat, with two good sails, has been a barge, but raised upon and a deck put to it. The owner may have it again on proving property and paying reasonable charges, by applying to

1007/6 THOMAS PYPHER, block maker, Annapolis.

Office for confiscated estates, Annapolis, December 19, 1781.

**A**T Snow-hill, in Worcester county, on Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of January next, will be sold for specie, or continental bills of credit emitted in this state to the actual value of specie, several valuable slaves, some stock and farming utensils, late the property of Dr. Henry Stevenson. Also an estate for the joint lives of Dr. Stevenson and Mrs. Stevenson, in the following tracts of land: Blachin-hurst, containing 203 acres; part of Collick moore, 82 acres; Cade's Contrivance, 28 acres; Edward's Garden-spot, 23 acres; Timber grove, 99 acres; and an unimproved lot in Snow-hill. One third of the sum bid to be paid on the first day of September 1782, the remainder in two equal yearly payments thereafter. Purchasers to give bond on interest, with two good securities.

2 By order, J. BAXTER, clk.

Annapolis, December 18, 1781.

**S**TOLEN, last Sunday morning, a dark roan horse, about 14 hands high, not branded, his two hind feet a little white, has a remarkable swelling between the knee and the ankle of the right fore foot, shed before, paces, trots and gallops; had on a saddle almost new and an old bridle. The person who is suspected of having stolen him goes by the name of William Johnson, says he came from the eastern shore, and probably may have taken the horse over the bay. He is a short well set man, has black eyes and hair, had on a country cloth coat, a pair of checkered trousers, a corded jacket, and a felt hat almost new. Whoever will bring the said horse to the subscriber, living near Bladenburg, Prince-George's county, or to Richard Tyers in Annapolis, shall receive a reward of two guineas, and the like sum on conviction of the thief, paid by

W3 2 X JOHN HAMILTON.

**A**LL persons indebted to the estate of Thomas Rutland, late of Anne-Arundel county, deceased, are desired to make immediate payment. And all those having claims against the said estate, are requested to make them known, to

3 X JOSEPH HOWARD, jun. executor.

Calvert county, December 10, 1781.

**A**LL persons indebted to the estate of Charles Grahame, late of Calvert county, deceased, are desired to come and discharge the same to the subscriber. And those who have claims against the said estate, are requested to bring them in to be adjusted and settled.

3 ASINE H GRAHAME, administratrix.



## SUPPLEMENT to the MARYLAND GAZETTE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1875.

## TO THE PEOPLE OF MARYLAND.

OUR illustrious commander in chief, in his address to the numerous addresses, on a late important event, has endeavored to inculcate an idea of the necessity for making the most vigorous exertions. By these alone we can improve the advantage, and secure a speedy conclusion of the war. Every man agrees to the general proposition; but various opinions are entertained with respect to the means. I have attended to the views of the supply bill, and am satisfied, the taxes will not produce one third of the sum requisite for the various purposes of complying with the requisitions of congress, of providing for internal defence, of supporting government, and fulfilling its engagements to those merchants, who have generously confided in it at a time, when public credit seemed entirely lost. All this cannot be accomplished with less than 45,000 pounds—45 shillings in the hundred upon 25,000,000 will yield 115,000 pounds gross—deduct 20,000 pounds paper, which according to the prevailing opinion, ought not to be issued; and the sum is reduced to 95,000—from this (about one-fourth) equal to 25,000, on account of specific articles being overrated, and one-fifth, equal to 20,000, on account of waste, loss, and the charge of collection, and there remains the net sum of 50,000 pounds. Every one of these deductions must be thought moderate—perhaps the net sum will not exceed 40,000 pounds. With this then, without further supplies, we are to make our contributions to congress, to provide for internal defence, to support the civil list, to perform certain contracts, and to be prepared against every contingency.

It has been proposed to tax the stocks in trade; to sell confiscated property; to open the land office; and to issue, as specie, the residue of the red bills, amounting to about 100,000 pounds. If all these aids are inadequate, there are some men ready to exclaim, "We must then be content to provide for the operations of war, which is as much as the people are able to bear."

If you tax the stocks in trade, or if you lay a duty on imports, what mighty sums do you expect to derive? I have ever considered duties on trade as improper in a free government; and the eyes of politicians in Europe begin to be opened on the subject. It is argued, that this kind of tax excites no murmurs among the people, and that none but the person, who chooses to buy, is to bear the burden—the present object, I conceive, is to ease the people—but it is evident, that species of tax only deceives them; as whatever is raised in this way is ultimately extracted from their pockets; and the merchant will, before long, pay a profit on the money, he advances for the import. As for the consumers vainly paying the duty, that is a powerful argument against it. Is it politic, or just, that a miser, who sells the produce of his farm, at the highest price, he can extort, and who, by hoarding every penny, deprives society of its circulating medium, should be exempt from a burthen, that falls only on the generous, and able citizen?

Upon what terms shall we dispose of vacant lands, or unappropriated British property? Shall we sell for ready money, or on short credit? Let us, a single acre of the best land, for ready money, and the number of those, capable of the purchase, is so inconsiderable, it would not produce one half the value—let us, 50,000 acres in convenient parcels, and there would be no difficulty for purchasers to bid against each other—the 50,000 acres would not, I really believe, produce 20,000 pounds. Lend the people with a credit, and they bid without passion or foresight—the 50,000 acres would probably be struck off at double the value—but will this answer the purposes of government?

There is perhaps no subject in which politicians differ more than the quantity of specie within the state—we are possessed of no means of forming a near conjecture, what was the amount at the commencement of the war, what proportion of it remains, or how much has been since imported—I pretend to a little reflection, to a little spirit of enquiry, and am convinced that the scarcity of specie will not permit us by taxes, sales, or otherwise, even at different periods, the sum of 25,000 pounds, to be raised within the year.

I suppose, a considerable part of the demands of congress may be furnished in specific articles—that consideration, and the scarcity of money, must justify a species of tax, which, of all others, is the lowest, the most precarious, the most degrading, the least productive, and of course the most oppressive. I would adhere to the plan of specific taxes, and even change the rate from 45 shillings to 75, which, according to my mode of calculating, would produce the net sum of 244,800 pounds—that is—it would furnish something more than one half the

necessary supplies. The people of Maryland, notwithstanding the policy of their rulers, hold out the idea of spending more than they really do, have sufficient understanding to perceive, that if property is added to half the value, and specific articles are overrated, even fourth, the 75 shillings does not exceed 20 shillings. If there is a man, who will maintain that the middling and lower classes of the people, which are much the most numerous, and valuable, are unable to pay this 75 shillings, he must prove they are unwilling; and if they are unwilling, it is because the measures of government have not produced a conviction, that their good, and nothing else, has invariably been the principle. Let money go back to the time, when the true sense of patriotism warmed every heart—what was the prevailing language? We will give up a third, a half, nay the whole of our property, sooner than wear the chains of Britain. Had an orator, at that time, presumed to declare that the people could not, ought not, to sacrifice one hundredth part of their property to the carrying on a campaign, in defence of every thing, which is dear to man, no former partiality, no rank, services or talents, would have shielded him from their indignation. Do men reason, or is the result of their reflection a thorough belief, that we ought, at this stage, to relinquish the contest, and sue for grace, pardon, and reconciliation?

In my first paper, I was wrong in reckoning upon the left emission of money, for the ensuing year, and was then unacquainted with the demands of congress—I have not the faintest doubt that a much larger sum than 25,000 pounds of the red bills might issue as specie—to pay debts contracted during the present year—when I contemplate a needy creditor receiving for 200 pounds, what he knows will not yield him 10, I must equally deplore his hard fate, and the state of public credit. Here then we reach upon the cause of our difficulties—I am unwilling to view government as acting in the same line with an individual, whom the general voice, consigns to infamy—perished, that the most upright conduct will be misconstrued, and that it is impossible to eradicate an obstinate prejudice, we ought not to be surprised if he should not think it worth his while to act on honest part, provided he can, at any time, flattered by trick, cunning and evasion. The reputation of a state is not like that of an individual—the very nature of society and government implies the confidence of their constituents—and, if a series of errors has murdered public credit, an opposite conduct cannot fail to revive it. I am astonished that men will not perceive truths, which are manifest as the sun in his meridian glory; and that any other act of legislation can be thought of, before some attempt is made to open the most fruitful source, from whence government can derive its supply.

Let government resolve to be honest, and endeavour to convince the world, that such is their determination—Legislatures should be governed by maxims, as individuals by laws—What avails it for an assembly to plight the faith of government, if its successors conceive themselves no farther bound, than their own discretion shall dictate. I would have a solemn resolve, that this assembly will, to the utmost of its power, perform every subsisting engagement of its predecessors, and an act to declare certain maxims to be implied by the constitution.

An enquiry must now be, what are those subsisting engagements? Government has seized, or obtained by consent, the offices of its citizens, engaging to pay the value; it has borrowed money, to be repaid in a short time, or without a day of payment, upon interest; it has emitted bills bearing an interest; and has made other engagements, for the performance of which the persons concerned do not conceive they have the least security.

I cannot tell what the state debt, exclusive of the bills of credit, and what is due to soldiers for depreciation, may amount to—perhaps to 250,000 pounds specie—perhaps to a great deal more. I am sensible, it cannot be discharged; but I would determine, at all events, to pay the interest by quarterly payments, beginning as early as possible. These measures could not fail to produce an instant and blessed effect in retrieving the confidence of the people, and consequently in appreciating the bills of credit.

"Shall we then admit a heavy additional expense, when we are at our wits end, to provide ways and means?" Permit me to point them out.

I lay it down as removed from a possibility of doubt, that we must have paper money—A bank we cannot have at present, and it is in vain to talk about it—but the three emissions might still be made to answer almost all the purposes of government—I propose (without the most distant idea of a tender law) that they be received in all payments to the public at par. It is not clear, that the best way to stamp a value on paper money, and to make it circulate with freedom, is to create a demand?



