

## NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1780.

Mr. COLLINS,

*Please to give the enclosed a place in your useful paper.*

**T**O think what we please and speak what we think, is an essential right of a freeman; and as it is the privilege, so it is the duty of every honest man in this land of liberty to examine all questions of a public nature, touching the welfare and happiness of the government under which he lives. In this light we may view a late publication in your paper, signed with the name of the author, on the subject of manumitting slaves. The gentleman's design reaches farther, and appears to be more comprehensively beneficial to this class of men than the late law in Pennsylvania, but how far it may be consistent with *sound policy*, and the present situation of our affairs, will, in my poor opinion, bear some discussion. In this view I mean chiefly to take up the argument; in the course of which I shall address my reasonings to him as an inhabitant of this state, and a citizen of the United States in general.

The knowledge of human nature is a science at once the most useful and difficult, as it is that which must help us to direct and adopt the spirit of the laws by which men are to be governed. A strict moralist may lay down rules for the conduct of human life, and flatter himself into a belief that because they are the most just they are practicable; but in most cases an attempt of this nature would only serve to convince him of his error, and the futility of his opinion. The business of the closet is one thing, that of persuading or convincing mankind very different. Solon the Athenian lawgiver felt the force of this truth when he was asked if he had given his countrymen the best laws, his celebrated answer was, "I have not given them the best I could, but the best they were capable of receiving." Now it appears, if we were to judge of his understanding or his virtue from his laws alone, we should not probably do him justice. But there is sometimes the perfection of policy in measures which are not perfectly virtuous; and the reason is the same that Solon gave, to wit, "they are the best the people are capable of receiving," or in other words, that the nature and situation of things will admit.

Thus we see that even a general knowledge of human nature, and the best intentions, tho' they may help us to make wise and good institutions, yet is not all-sufficient without fully considering the peculiar state and condition of the people on which they are to operate. If Solon had not done this, his plan of government would in all probability have turned out a fanciful, ineffective, Utopian scheme.

It seems as if there was some weight, and that not inconsiderable, due to the customs of nations; even those which, when strictly examined, may not be very righteously founded. Our Saviour, consistently with this idea, did not hesitate to pay tribute to Cæsar, tho' he knew his power was ill gotten, and that he was a tyrant.

Arguments drawn from scripture authorities when veiled in obscurity, as they are apt to weigh improperly with some men, ought to be cleared from the mists that surround them; and in pursuance of this idea, it may not be an unacceptable task to explain what the *accursed thing* was which was among the Israelites, and prevented for a time their conquering their enemies.—When Joshua came to the land of the Amorites he sent three thousand men against Ai, who were defeated, and the men of Ai smote of them about thirty and six men, Josh. vii. 5.—Joshua hearing of this, applied to the Lord to know the cause of this misfortune, and the Lord said, "Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them; for they have taken of the *accursed thing*, and they have also stolen, and dissembled also, and have put it even amongst their own stuff." Josh. vii. 11.

Achan, the son of Charmi, being, among others, examined before Joshua, made the following confession:—"When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them, and behold they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it." Josh. vii. 21. This was directly in the face of the following commandment: "The graven image shalt thou burn with fire, thou shalt not desire the silver or gold that is in them, nor take it unto thee, lest thou be ensnared therein; for it is an abomination to the Lord thy God." Deut. vii. 25.—"Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thy house, lest thou be a *curfed thing* like it, but thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it, for it is a *curfed thing*." Deut. vii. 26.

But the author in question has, with what boldness I leave the world to judge, in effect made a command-

ment for us, and an *accursed thing*, which he first pronounces us guilty of, and then roundly deals out a judgment of his own making, also against our endeavours to defend ourselves from the enemy, for having this *accursed thing* of his among us. This kind of reasoning seems to favour pretty much of the arts practised by the church of Rome in the plenitude of her power, many of the offences and punishments being of her own invention.

For my own part, having never put on the yoke of implicit faith with respect to any such authority, I disclaim the absurd jurisdiction; being of opinion that the causes of our misfortunes are merely human, and very different from that which he ascribes them, for I believe truly we have many *accursed things* amongst us.

But the gentleman having chosen the ground of scripture, the following authority does not seem inapplicable to the point in question:

In that part of the Levitical law relating to the year of Jubilee, chap. xxv. 45, 46, are these words,—45.

"Moreover of the children of the strangers that do sojourn among you, of them shall you buy, and of their families that are with you, which they begat in your land, and they shall be your possession.—46. And ye shall take them as an inheritance for your children after you, to inherit them for a possession; they shall be your bondmen forever: but over your brethren, the children of Israel, ye shall not rule one over another with rigour."

In these parts of the Levitical law *perpetual slavery* seems rather more than permitted under the Jewish nation, and of course it could not have been deemed an *accursed thing*.

Having just mentioned an authority of no small weight, drawn from the sacred writings, I shall now endeavour to shew from the reason of facts taken from profane history, that the practice of holding slaves among other nations has not been deemed more offensive than it was of old among the Jews. Plutarch tells us in his life of Solon, "that the slaves in Attica were absolutely the property of their masters, and as such were used as they thought fit; they were forbidden to wear clothes or to cut their hair like their masters; they were likewise debarred from anointing and perfuming themselves, and from worshipping certain deities; they were not allowed to be called by honourable names, and in most other respects were used like dogs."

In Sparta the cruelties practised upon their Hætoles or slaves, were still more barbarous. There was a certain custom among those people called *Cryptia*, that is, Ambuscade, such as had the care of educating the Spartan youth picked out the stoutest of them, and having armed them with daggers, sent them to destroy their unhappy slaves, which they did by falling upon them in the night or the day when they were at work, without any crime being pretended against them; once a day they received a certain number of stripes, for fear they should forget they were slaves.

Among the Romans the method of treating slaves was arbitrary and cruel in the highest degree; they were subject to the will of their masters, who could do and really did with them as they pleased.

It has also been the policy of almost all the maritime nations of Europe to employ slaves in their colonies, particularly in the West-Indies, where they live miserably, and are used with great rigour.

Having thus stated the facts, let us now consider what befall these nations and people in consequence of their having this pretended *accursed thing* among them.—Athens became the school of politeness, of the liberal arts and science, and after the full enjoyment of all earthly happiness, submitted in her turn to the inevitable fate of all human things.

Sparta, more rigid in her moral and political maxims, flourished for the space of seven hundred years, and maintained an enviable rank in the government of the world. Rome, Imperial Rome, the mistress of nations, the wonder and envy of mankind, for many hundred years ruled over the earth with despotick power.

The nations of Europe who have employed slaves in their West-India colonies have uniformly grown rich by their labour, and increased in strength, and the individuals among them immediately concerned in the business enjoy a great share of ease and happiness; and even these states, from Georgia to New-Hampshire, all of them have grown and flourished with the pretended *accursed thing* among them beyond the example of other times, or nations enjoying in reality for many years the fancied happiness of the golden age of the poets.

I hope no one will do me the injustice to think I am an advocate for slavery; my design in what I have as

yet said is only to shew the fancifulness and enthusiastic turn of the argument made use of in the performance in question, which seems calculated rather to work on the imaginations than the good sense and sound judgment of the public, whilst other obvious reasons of irrefragable force with respect to the justice of the measure might have been substituted in their place.

I think, though it may be right and highly praiseworthy to set free the children of slaves to be born after a certain time, there are many weighty reasons of policy against freeing the present race of slaves at this crisis.

1. That at this time when many parts of the state in the neighbourhood of the enemy are laid waste and rendered desolate by the ravages of that army, and many families driven from their lands depend in a great measure on the labour of their slaves for a livelihood, it would be unreasonable to deprive them of their only support.

2. That as all slaves are in reality as much the property of their masters as the gold and silver for which they were bought, or may be sold, according to every idea of law and custom prevailing among us, they cannot be deprived of them without being paid the value, which will be a new and heavy tax upon the publick.

3. That there will be a considerable number of superannuated, diseased, and vagabond slaves, to be maintained at the publick cost, which will also be a heavy tax.

4. That the quantity of labour will be considerably lessened at a time when every nerve should be strained to furnish money and supplies for the maintenance of the army, on which our own liberty and property depends.

5. Because they are unfit for good commonwealth's men from their having all the habits of servitude deep rooted in their minds.

6. Because they are treated with a humanity unknown in other parts of the world, and are better off than the generality of white poor, who are obliged, those who have families, from their necessities to work harder than the slaves in general in this state.

But what shall we say when we consider the writer as a citizen of the United States, to the interest of all which some attention and duty are owing. What will an inhabitant of Georgia or the Carolinas think of these examples in the more northern parts of the American Republick at this distressing and critical time, when his very existence as a man, and that of his family and friends, depends on the obedience of the slaves, who are so much more numerous than the white inhabitants? The evils consequent upon so large a body of slaves, idle, ignorant, and helpless as they are in those countries, being liberated, or even possessed of the spirit of disobedience, would now be irremediable. Will the people of those states, deprived of the labour of their slaves, be able to furnish their respective quotas of the taxes towards sinking the present money, and the farther important purposes of carrying on the war? I cannot but imagine that if the writer were now in this predicament, struggling with losses and misfortunes, the actual suffering of which would add a poignancy and weight to reasons of policy, he would find them operate in such manner as to induce him to change his opinion, which, if it becomes a measure of government, will, in my opinion, be attended with consequences pernicious if not fatal to the common cause.

I have heard within these few days that there is a probability of the law in Pennsylvania, for freeing the children of the present generation of slaves, being altered, if not repealed, on the ground of inexpediency.

A W H I C.

THE SCOURGE, [No. IV.]

Saturday, February 19, 1780.

To the Right Honourable (*subtle Scotchman*) William Murray, Earl of Mansfield, and Lord Mansfield, Lord Chief Justice of the polluted Court of King's Bench, Governor of the Charter-House, and one of his Majesty's most baneful Privy Counsellors.

My Lord,

I AM perfectly sensible of your power, and I as well know your infamous and corrupt abuse of it; but that shall not deter me from exposing your baneful influence, treacherous arts, and Scotch cunning, however dangerous it may be to my personal liberty, at this time, when Lord Sandwich's Mulgrave, the notorious apostate, and ministerial blood-hound, had the consummate assurance and barefaced impudence on Monday last to say in the House of Commons, that the people of England, because they have entered in-

(For the remainder see the fourth page.)

WHEN the writers of ministerial papers become advocates for a peace, mutually advantageous with America, even the Republicans (as it is the fashion contemptuously to stile them) must applaud the solid rectitude of their counsels. It is the wish of all parties, that not one moment may be lost in an attempt which is at once necessary, politic and benevolent; an attempt to connect the Colonists in one common interest with the Mother Country.

Two thousand barrels of porter are ordered to be shipped for Charlestown, South-Carolina, as soon as possible.

July 4. We learn from Lisbon that a large body of Spanish forces have marched upon the frontiers of that kingdom, and a peremptory answer has been at the same time demanded from the Court of Portugal by the Spanish Ministry there, to the request made by the Court of Madrid, that English ships of war of every denomination shall be refused admittance into the Portuguese harbour. A copy of the late Spanish Declaration, which is dated May 23, 1780, has been delivered by the Court of Portugal to our Envoy at Lisbon, and was immediately sent home by the Milford frigate.

July 6. His Excellency Count de Maltzan, Minister Plenipotentiary from the Prussian Court has received his letters of recall, and will soon return home.

I R E L A N D.

Dublin, June 23. The tradesmen of the Castle, we are told, have entered into a subscription, to celebrate the departure of his Excellency from this kingdom, in the manner of General Howe's *Mischieanzas*. All the kitchen stuff of the Castle is brought up for that purpose, to light a striking representation of the Cave of Famine. The personages of the Drama are to consist of twelve starved battle-axe men, kneeling before an image of Hope, who points to a figure of Plenty feeding a multitude of famished rats, with a libel coming out of its mouth, inscribed *change of diet*. The whole is to be concluded by six hundred squalid figures from the House of Industry, who attended the great man to the water's edge, singing *Te Deum* for his departure from a hospitable kingdom.

B A S S E T E R R E, August 26.

On Thursday evening the wind shifting to the southward, and blowing very fresh, it was productive of a very melancholy scene being presented to our view the next morning, there being no less than ten or twelve vessels on shore at 8 o'clock. The wind still continuing in the same point until about 4 o'clock, P. M. and by that means increasing the swell of the sea, the number of vessels on shore at that time amounted to twenty-two, but since the wind has inclined a little to the westward, from which we have some flattering hopes that the dreadful havoc and devastation it has been making, may conclude here. We were truly concerned to have it in our power to say, that one of his Majesty's ships added greatly to this catastrophe, by being in the road two or three days prior to it, and endeavouring to impress all the sailors they could meet with; some they got, and the rest abandoned their vessels and fled from such oppression, by which means a number were lost through want of hands to get them under way. Such an untimely season for impressing we leave our readers to judge how far the tender feelings for fellow creatures could actuate the minds of those who were the instigation of it.

The following is the most perfect List we have been able to collect of the vessels drove on shore:

- A ship, Capt. Leck, bilged, in ballast.
- A snow, belonging to Mr. Charlotte, of St. Eustatius, wrecked.
- A snow, belonging to Mr. Tho. Atkinson, in ballast.
- A brig, belonging to Harper and Brade, lately taken.
- A schooner, belonging to Mr. Robert Crawford.
- Ditto, belonging to Mr. William Priddie.
- Ditto, belonging to Mr. John Heale.
- Ditto, belonging to Mr. John Robinson.
- Ditto, belonging to Mr. Charlotte, at St. Eustatius.
- Ditto, belonging to Bromley and Hodges, of Mount-ferrat.
- Ditto, seized by the Custom-house.
- Ditto, from New-York.
- Ditto, a prize to a man of war.
- Ditto, a prize to the Guernsey cutter.
- Ditto, do. do. do.
- Ditto, from New-Providence.
- Sloop ———, Capt. Kingston.
- Ditto, belonging to Mr. Bartholomew Dyer.
- Ditto, belonging to Mr. Daniel Delaney.
- Ditto, belonging to Mr. Robert Crawford.
- Ditto, belonging to Mr. Allison.
- Ditto, belonging to Aretas Akers, Esq. totally lost.
- A hull, belonging to Mr. Robert Crawford.

A man was knocked overboard by the boom on board Mr. Allison's sloop, and not seen afterwards.

A canoe, which was out fishing all night, came in and overset in the breakers; one negro lost his life, who belonged to William Burroughs, sen. Esq.

F I S H - K I L L, September 28.

On Monday last his Excellency Gen. Washington passed through this town, on his way from Hartford, and his arrival at West-Point was announced by the discharge of thirteen cannon, about eleven o'clock same day.

About the time of his Excellency's arrival at the fort, a most horrid plot was discovered, the infamous Gen. Arnold at the head of it; who, it is supposed,

has been corrupted by the influence of British gold, having agreed to deliver up the fort at West-Point; for which purpose he drew a plan of all the works at the Point, and gave it to a spy, Major John Andre, Adjutant General of the British army, and first Aid of Sir Henry Clinton. Arnold, on Thursday last, early in the day, came to Mr. Joshua Smith's (brother to the honorable William Smith) at Haverstraw. Smith, who is now in custody, says, that Arnold told him that there was a person on board the Vulture, a British frigate then in the river, whom he greatly wanted to see; he mentioned Col. B. Robinson, who he said, was coming, under pretence of serving the British, to make interest to obtain his estate and return. Arnold proposed to Smith to go on board the frigate; Smith accordingly, in the night, went on board, where he saw Col. Robinson and Major Andre. Col. Robinson refused to come ashore, but Major Andre did; they found Arnold waiting for them on the shore, and they had a long private conference; after which Arnold went to Smith's house with the Major, and Smith secured the barge. Next day Arnold requested Smith to furnish the Major with a suit of clothes, lest he should be suspected, as his were British regimentals; which he did. They were prevented going on board the frigate the following day, our gun boats being in the river. On which they agreed to go by land, and Arnold supplied Andre and Smith with passes to conduct them below our lines. Having provided horses they set off on Saturday morning; and Smith conducted him past our guards, and, as he thought, out of danger, and then left him; but a party of our militia soon after met and secured him, and notwithstanding his large offers of cash and goods, to let him pass, which they nobly disdain, brought him to Head-Quarters; and on Tuesday last he was removed to West-Point, in order to have his trial with Joshua Smith, his conductor, who was secured on Monday night.

Arnold hearing of General Washington's approach, seemed greatly confused, called for his horse, and rode immediately to the landing, where he ordered a barge to set off with him, who carried him on board the Vulture, where he now remains: 'Tis said he sent a letter to General Washington, to assure him, that neither his wife nor Aid were in the secret of his nefarious conduct.

This hasty narrative, contains all the particulars we have heard of this tragical affair. We expect in our next to give our readers a more correct account of it.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, September 30.

As the public curiosity and anxiety must naturally be raised to a high pitch by the providential detection of the perfidy and treachery of a late distinguished general officer of the United States, we shall endeavour to give our readers such particulars as have come to our knowledge, and are well authenticated.

On Monday last Congress received a letter from General Greene, inclosing one from Col. Hamilton, one of General Washington's aids, informing him that a scene of the blackest villainy had been just disclosed: that Arnold was gone off to the enemy: Col. Andrie, General Clinton's principal aid and confidant, was apprehended in disguise in our camp: that West-Point (where Arnold was commanded) was to be the sacrifice, and that all the dispositions were made for delivering it up as last Monday night: that he had pursued Arnold as far as Verplank's point, from which the letter was dated, but without success; that tho' it was not probable the post would now fail, yet it was possible, and especially as the wind was fair; therefore he recommended to Gen. Greene (who commands the army in General Washington's absence) to put it under marching orders, and detach a brigade immediately.

The letter from General Greene confirms the above account, but adds no material particulars.

As soon as these letters were read, the contents were communicated to the Vice-president and Council of this state, and the Justices of the Supreme Court, who directed an immediate seizure of all Arnold's papers, which was made, and tho' no direct proof of his treachery was found, the papers disclose such a scene of baseness and prostitution of office and character, as it is hoped this new world cannot parallel. His participation of the plunder of this city when he held the command after the evacuation of the enemy, is now found by the agreement, signed between him and his accomplices to share the profits of that shameful business. It appears that he and some others, whose names will probably in due time be made known, now have subsisting contracts with persons in New-York for merchandize.

In making an estimate of his estate he enumerates his share of the sloop Active, tho' he found witnesses to swear before the grand jury that he had no share in her. In short, his whole command appears to have been a scene of the basest traffick and publick plunder. In August last he directs his wife to draw all she can from the commissaries, and sell it or store it, tho' at that very time the army was destitute of provisions. In the private correspondence of his family and himself are contained the most sarcastic and contemptuous expressions of the French nation, and of an eminent personage of that country, whose hospitality and politeness they were at that time frequently experiencing. The illiberal abuse of every character opposed to his fraudulent and wicked transactions exceeds all description.

Prudence forbids our mentioning the names of those persons who appear by his letters to have supported and abetted him in his nefarious practices; nor is it necessary, as the journals of a great assembly and the countenance he received in this city from some persons, will easily direct the public judgment. The attempts to stigmatize the President and Council of this state, and to saddle it with the payment of the sloop Active, must now appear in their proper light and fill the authors with shame and remorse.

Our correspondent concludes with a remark on the fallacious and dangerous sentiments so frequently avowed in this city, that female opinions are of no consequence in public matters. The Romans thought far otherwise, or we should not have heard of the Clelias, the Cornelias and Anias of antiquity: and had we thought and acted like them we should have despised and banished from social intercourse every character, whether male or female, which could be so lost to virtue, decency and humanity, as to revel with the murderers and plunderers of their countrymen. Behold the consequence. Col. Andrie, under the mask of friendship and former acquaintance at Meschianzas and Balls, opens a correspondence in August, 1779, with Mrs. Arnold, which has doubtless been improved on his part to the dreadful and horrid issue we have described, and which but for the over-ruling care of a kind Providence, must have involved this country and our Allies in great distress, and perhaps utter ruin.

The following are the reports of the manner of discovery, but we can only give them as such, viz.

That Col. Andrie came up the river in a frigate, and then went on shore in disguise, supposed to meet Arnold, and finish their intended scheme; but it happened, that a British deserter crossed the river in the same boat, who knew Andrie notwithstanding his disguise. The deserter took no notice of him in the boat, but hastened up to Arnold's quarters to give information; Colonel Hamilton fortunately was there on business, and was present when it was given: he, with some others, hastened immediately to the place, where Andrie was found, seized, and disowned himself; but, in the mean time, Arnold fearing his plot had failed, and goaded by a guilty conscience, fled to a boat at the river side, which conveyed him on board the frigate, where, for the present, he is out of reach of the punishment due to his crimes, though doubtless brooding over them, and where he will soon feel the stings of contempt which ever follows successful Treachery, but whose keen sensations must be doubly quickened under shame and disappointment. Andrie's fate is not yet known.

Extract of letter from Camp, Tapan, September 26.

"Lost to every sentiment of honor, and disgraced by the inordinate thirst for gold, General Arnold has gone over to the enemy.—He was to have surrendered the important post of West-Point, and entrapped the Commander in Chief, who lodged at the post on the intended night of execution. The plot was providentially discovered, and the whole mystery unravelled; though as yet, I am unacquainted with the particulars.—The substantial facts are, that Major Andrie, the British Adjutant General, who had been with General Arnold, and had obtained a plan of the works, and an exact state of them from him, on his return to make his report, about Tarry Town, was taken by three militia-men, and delivered to Col. Sheldon's regiment of horse: In the bottom of one of his boats were discovered letters and plans which unfolded the hellish scheme. It soon took wind, and was reported to General Arnold, and just before his Excellency arrived at the place, the General went on board of his barge, pushed down the river, and made his escape to the Vulture sloop of war that lay opposite to Tallara's Point.—Tom Smith's brother was an accomplice, and has gone off likewise. Mrs. Arnold is at West-Point, or Robinson's house, in a very distressed situation, and Major Parkes is with her. The enemy's whole force, except a small garrison, had embarked yesterday, and the plan was to have been executed last night."

Extract of another letter from the same place, Sept. 27.

"Since writing you yesterday, I am informed that it was Joe, instead of Tom Smith, who acted as an accomplice in this horrid plot; he is taken, and with Major Andrie, I suppose WILL GRACE A GALLOWS this day—No other particulars have come to my knowledge.—The Commander in Chief is still at West-Point, providing for the security, and teaching the treason to the bottom."

T R E N T O N, OCTOBER 3.

By two Gentlemen who left Head-Quarters on Saturday last, we are informed that the spy, Major ANDRE, the person mentioned under the Fish-Kill and Philadelphia heads, was to be executed at camp on the same day, at five o'clock in the afternoon—and that Joe Smith had not then had his trial, but it was not doubted that he would meet a like reward.

It is ardently to be wished, says a correspondent, that General Arnold, that most abandoned and infamous traitor and intended betrayer of the just and glorious cause of America, should share a like fate, that he might become as a by-word among the virtuous sons of America.

We are desired to inform the electors of this county, that the election will be held on Tuesday next at Merhon's, late Ringo's tavern, in Amwell, where all persons entitled to vote are desired to give their attendance.

TO THE FREEMEN OF THE STATE OF JERSEY.

HUMAN wisdom perhaps cannot form a constitution of government more perfect than that which we are so happy as to enjoy. The will of the governed is the will of themselves, expressed by their representatives, annually and freely chosen. In this consists the very essence of LIBERTY.

But it is in vain to hope for the enjoyment of this constitution longer than the pulse of freedom beats in the commonality of the people. The moment they sink into luxury and sloth, venality and corruption, that moment the goodly fabric of FREEDOM which they erected, falls; and perhaps buries every particle of liberty in its ruins.

The truth of this observation hath been verified in many ages, and in many nations. Ancient Rome, in particular, bears full testimony in its favour; nor is modern Britain less explicit in similar evidence.

The excellence of the British constitution hath been celebrated, not only by Britons, but by foreigners. And it must be confessed it hath much intrinsic value, and as a monarchical government, it is allowed to be equal, if not superior, to any in the world. We, however, feel no emotions of envy towards it; we wish not a kingly government, though in its most perfect form. Such an humiliating system may be well adapted to the genius, prejudices, and characters of Englishmen, but would be very opposite to that noble pride, and amiable simplicity, which distinguishes Americans.

But with the decline of publick virtue how does the spirit of liberty languish in Britain? Can it indeed be said, that there it hath even an existence?—The temple of freedom, it is true, remains, but such is its pollution, that its chaste goddess hath relinquished it, hath taken her flight, and fixed her abode in the fair regions of America.

This state, among others, she animates and blesses with her presence.—May we forever enjoy her smiles! May the rude hand of tyranny never offend her! May her sacred character ever be regarded! But I fear her displeasure—I dread her absence.

Say not, I possess an uncommon share of timidity; that my apprehensions are groundless; they are amply justified by the inconstancy and weakness of mankind. It is to be wished they could be justified by no other reason. I do not desire to clamour, much less to calumniate. A regard for FREEDOM only opens my lips.

Our constitution guards the life, liberty, and property of the subject, by the trial of a jury of his peers.

It is said that at the last session of the legislature an attempt was made to pass a bill, constituting a body of five members, to sit during the recess of the assembly; and this board was to be invested with power, merely on the suspicion of disaffection to government, to banish any, and by consequence, every freeman of the state to the enemy, with whom he was to continue, or not return without legal permission on pain of death.

It is scarce credible that any of the guardians of our liberty could so soon have mistaken or forgotten its principles, and been unmindful of their trust. And for their honour, as well as that of the state, I hope I am misinformed in this particular; but I am apprehensive there is too much reason to believe it is founded on fact. The minutes of the assembly, however, will testify in this case, and, if as is represented, I am charitably inclined to attribute the conduct of the abettors of the bill rather to inattention than evil design; that they have been governed in this instance by ignorance, mistaken zeal, or influenced by the sophistical reasoning of some wicked individual. The plea of NECESSITY has in it a quality extremely pleasing to TYRANTS, and when uttered by the tongue of apparent patriotism, a sound which charms the ear of many men of integrity.

But no cry of necessity can justify an act of treason or guilt; no fear of danger can excuse the commission of evil; no exigency of a state can acquit a subversion of its LIBERTIES by those who have sworn to maintain them. Should the plea of necessity be admitted, there would be an end to freedom, and no potentate, however tyrannical or unconstitutional his acts, could be deposed, or arraigned at the bar of justice.

For the preservation of liberty, it is necessary that those delegated to protect it should not only be acquainted with its principles, and be possessed of probity, but also of strength to repel the attacks of its foes, of wisdom to discard and confute the arguments of subtlety or error, when employed for its destruction.

It would afford an unhappy patient, in the agonies of death, no consolation to inform him that the fatal potion which occasioned his dissolution was ministered by inattention or ignorance, and not by wickedness. The effect to him would be the same; and it must add to his unhappiness to reflect that he hath lost his life by thoughtlessly entrusting it with a person of negligence or unskillfulness in his profession.

That the life and vigour of our body politick may be preserved, it concerns us to be extremely attentive to whose care we entrust it.

The preceding observations will tend to assist us in our judgment, at the ensuing election, of the ability of those who shall offer themselves for this trust.

Yearly, at least, wisdom calls upon us to advert to the original state of floridity and health of this body, and to compare it with its present appearance, and if we perceive its constitution impaired, as its malady can only be attributed to a defect of conduct in those whose management it was committed, we should

immediately employ that most sovereign remedy within our power,—a change of our servants.

A FREEMAN.

To be SOLD at publick Vendue, On Wednesday, the 25th instant, at two o'clock in the afternoon, at the subscriber's Potting-work in Trenton,

A TRACT of LAND containing two hundred and sixty acres, all wood land except fifty acres, which is mostly cleared. There is an incumbrance of a lease on said fifty acres of a female's life, who is now upwards of eighty years of age. It has an improvement on it of a small house, stable and orchard, and lays within two miles and a half of Trenton, situate on the road from the upper ferry to Allen-town. It will be let up in one or two lots, as may best suit the purchasers. A good and lawful title will be given, and any person inclining to view the premises before the day of sale may apply to the subscriber, who will receive lawful or continental money in payment: and will likewise take in part New-Jersey Quartermasters certificates.

B. HANLON.

Trenton, October 4th, 1780.

TO BE SOLD, By publick Vendue,

On Saturday the 28th of October, inst. at the house of William and Robert Chambers, in the township of Windsor, and county of Middlesex;

AN elegant black COVERING HORSE, 7-8ths blooded; milch Cows, one yoke of working Oxen, Sheep, a light Pleasure Waggon, Ploughs and Harrows, with a variety of other farming utensils too tedious to mention. Oct. 2, 1780.

State of New-Jersey, Gloucester county, September 19, 1780.

To be sold at publick Vendue,

On Saturday the 4th of November next, at three o'clock afternoon, at the house of Hugh Creighton, innkeeper, in Haddonfield,

A Certain House and Lot in said town, (where said Creighton lately kept tavern, and now in the tenure of the widow Bispham) with a piece of meadow thereunto belonging; being late the property of John Hinchman, during the natural life of said John and his wife Elizabeth Hinchman. Also about three acres of cedar swamp on Proffer's pond branch, in the township of Gloucester, being late the property of said Hinchman; confiscated, and to be sold for the use of the state, by

JOHN SPARKS, and } Commis-  
SAMUEL KAIGHN, } sioners.

STRAYED,

On or about the 15th instant, from the plantation of Gen. Lewis Morris, near Rocky-Hill, Somerset county,

A DUN MARE, near fourteen hands high, a natural pacer, about five or six years old, and has a scar upon one of her flanks. Whoever returns the above mare at the said plantation, or gives information so that she may be recovered, shall be handsomely rewarded, and all reasonable charges paid at the above place. 3w\*

September 28th, 1780.

To be SOLD at public Vendue,

On Tuesday the 17th day of October/inst. at the house of the Widow Marlatt, in the township of Mansfieldwoodhouse, Suffex county, near Squires-Point:

HORSES, colts, oxen, cattle, sheep, ploughs and harrows, one waggon, many farming utensils, late the property of John Marlatt, deceased.

All persons that have any demands on the said estate are requested to call on

GARRET RAPALJE, } Executors.  
WM. CREVELING, }

To be sold at publick vendue,

On the 9th day of October instant, at the house of William Compton, deceased, Monmouth county, Upper-Freehold,

A PLANTATION of 200 acres of good land, containing very good buildings, a great quantity of meadow, an excellent orchard, and good water by the door.

Also, horses, cows, oxen, sheep, and all sorts of farming utensils too tedious to mention, by

JOHN COMPTON, } Executors.  
ICHABOD COMPTON, }

Five Hundred Dollars Reward.

BROKE out of Trenton gaol last night, a certain Matthias Simcock, of a small stature, about 45 years of age; also one John Van Hise, a low Dutchman, near 6 feet high, and 48 years of age. Whoever takes up said persons, and delivers them to the subscriber, shall have the above reward, or Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars for either, paid by

PETER HULICK, Gaoler.

Trenton, October 3, 1780.

TO BE SOLD,

In TRENTON,

A few very large and elegant

Looking-Glasses,

a Wilton Carpet,

And fundry other things.

3w\*

Enquire of the Printer.

Let the Public beware!

WHEREAS Capt. David Anderson obtained a note from the subscriber, for the payment of the sum of one thousand pounds continental money, bearing date the 14th of September last, payable in two or three weeks after date: These are therefore to forwarn all persons not to take an assignment of the same, as I am determined not to pay the same, it being obtained illegally, without value received.

Given under my hand, at Chesterfield, the 3d of October, 1780.

3w\*

JOHN WOOD, jun.

THE NEW ERECTED STAGE-WAGGON

From PHILADELPHIA to TRENTON, WILL set out from the Cross-Keys, in Philadelphia, every Tuesday morning, and proceed to Trenton same day; and set out from Trenton, at the sign of the Thirteen Stars, next morning, and proceed back to Philadelphia that day. All passengers, &c. are desired to attend at each place early in the morning. Their favours will be gratefully acknowledged by the Publick's humble servant,

JONATHAN SKOFFIELD.

TO BE SOLD,

FOR HARD MONEY OF CONTINENTAL,

A TRACT of LAND containing about 1000 acres, lying in the Corporation of New-Brunswick, on South-River, joining the island belonging to John Lawrence, Esq. late Mayor of Philadelphia: The place is well situated, having a good house and excellent orchard on it, and fresh meadow that will cut yearly at least one hundred loads of hay, a shad-fishery within thirty yards of the house, where great quantities of them are taken in the season, with other fish. The land is well timbered and convenient for the New-York market, having commodious landing places for boats of ten cords, from which place a number were employed to the New-York market. For further particulars enquire of Levinus Clarkson, at New-Brunswick, Jacobus Van Zandt, at Morris-Town, or Joseph Milnor, at Trenton, who will agree for the same. An indisputable title will be given. October 1, 1780. 3\*

TO BE SOLD, BY

JAMES SCHURMAN,

In NEW-BRUNSWICK,

At the lowest rates for cash or produce;

BEST West India Deerskins,  
rum, Earthenware,  
Muscovado sugar, Shore salt,  
Best bohea tea, Pipes,  
Coffee, chocolate, Tobacco,  
Pepper, allspice, Snuff,  
Brimstone, Pasteboards,  
Indigo, Nutmegs,  
Sewing silks, Spelling books,  
Threads, tapes, Primers,  
Knitting needles, Powder and shot.  
Silk handkerchiefs. 3†

STRAY COWS.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, about the 10th of August last, two cows, one a brindle with a slit in the right ear, and a crop off the left, the other a red one without mark; they have since both calved, and I have taken them into pasture. The owner is requested to prove his property, pay charges, and take them away.

SAMUEL HILL.

Amwell, September 28, 1780. 3†

Four Hundred Dollars Reward.

STOLEN out of the pasture of the subscriber, in Amwell, Hunterdon county, near Henry Merhson's tavern, (formerly Ringo's tavern) on Monday the 25th of September ult. at night, a grey draught HORSE, fourteen years old, about 14 hands and 2 inches high, a natural trotter, with a scar in his forehead. Any person that secures the thief and brings me the horse, or gives information so that I may have him again, shall have the above reward, or Two Hundred Dollars for the horse, with reasonable charges.

Oct. 2, 1780. 3\*

JOHN LEQUEAR.

to associations for the preservation of their lives, liberty, and property, against the despotic and bloody thirsty designs of your Lordship, and the rest of the King's desperate and destructive cabal, who like Cataline and the conspirators at Rome, have, it is to be presumed, drank each a cup of human blood, as a pledge of your union; "should be upon their guard, for government would be on their's, and watch their motions. From all history, and from recent example, it appears, that it is extreme folly to suffer doings of the kind that were going forward to rise into any height or maturity. Let the associators be aware, that they who offend without provocation, will suffer without pity. There is sufficient vigour in government to enforce the laws, and to maintain the constitution of this country."

By this bold and menacing declaration of your confederate in-mischief, as well as from Lord Hillsborough, in the House of Peers, "that the petitioners were factious, and the petitions rebellious," it is pretty evident for what purpose the new regiments have been raised, and what use is humanely intended to be made of them, it is, my Lord, to support, continue, and perfect the horrid system of tyranny which you laid down in order to make the present grateful and pious king absolute, and this you was aware could not be easily effected without a numerous band of mercenary cut-throats, to overawe the people, and in case they complained by petitions or remonstrances, or dared to meet and associate for their own preservation; these hired butchers, the very dregs and scum of the earth, raked from all the sinks of infamy in every part of the kingdom, and presently trained to slaughter, were to point the dagger to the hearts of their countrymen, and to keep them in subjection with the sword and bayonet.

The wicked, mischievous, and hellish conspiracy your Lordship had formed (in conjunction with others) under the auspices of a dastardly tyrant, against the common rights of mankind, and envied constitution of the British empire, was laid deep, and it spread wide, you urged it on with a steady zeal, and an unwearied application, but as soon as your infernal scheme of destroying charters, and arbitrarily imposing taxes on a people who you never saw in America, contrary even to any pretence or legal claim of right, failed; you watched all opportunities to begin the bloody execution and slaughter of mankind, that you might satiate your Scots revenge with human gore; the first opposition to despotic power you declared in the Privy Council to be an act of rebellion, and in consequence of that diabolical advice, which you knew would please the temper of your master, whose aim is to be the imperial tyrant and butcher of the human race; many thousand distressed orphans, and unhappy widows, are now bewailing the loss of their murdered fathers, and husbands, and daily calling to heaven for vengeance on your head, as the author of their miseries; for they well know, my Lord, that you have been the artful fiend who planned and advised their total extirpation by the sword, if they would not submit to be slaves. This, my Lord, the whole kingdom must be convinced of, and believe, for none but a monster in human shape, or some malignant devil could have said what you uttered in the House of Peers against the people of America, more than four years since. "If we don't kill them, they will kill us;" yes, my Lord, it was your advice and your design to kill them, and you, together with your humane master, gloried in the slaughter; heaven be praised, your success has not been so great as you expected, they have gloriously and manfully resisted your tyranny, and frustrated all your schemes of despotism and arbitrary power over them.

As you found, my Lord, the Americans were too wise, too brave, and too virtuous to be cheated out of their birth-rights as Englishmen, by your chicanery, sophistry, and Scotch cunning, or by force; you and your master, the tool of a desperate faction, are now determined to try the same experiment upon the deluded people of this country. The plan of their ruin and slavery has been long laid; you, and the rest of the junto, by means of a corrupt majority in the House of Commons, have already reduced the greatest part of the nation to want and beggary, the constitution is now tottering to its base, and the only security the people have for their lives and property, depends upon the will of the King, that is, your Lordship's, or the vote of venal senators. Notwithstanding the distresses of the kingdom, full one-eighth part of the revenue of England is at this time shared by your Lordship, and the other miscreants in power; and yet you have advised his pious majesty and the court faction, as a reward for having robbed us of near all we have, to desire we will give the rest; to support your Lordship and other notorious plunderers and traitors, and to maintain a war against the established laws of the realm, and our fellow-subjects; that we may purchase our own bondage at a dearer price than our forefathers did their liberties.

My Lord, while your infernal counsel prevails in this kingdom, and you remain at the head of the King's Bench and the present faction in power, the constitution cannot be safe, it is already nearly overthrown, the great charter of our liberties is undermined, the laws are no longer a security against

pine, and lawless violence; the innocent are made to suffer, whilst the guilty escape punishment. The life and personal liberty of every Englishman in every part of the empire, is not only in danger, but liable to be sacrificed, if he either acts or speaks against the designs of your Lordship and the King's faction. It is now evident, my Lord, and the whole nation is convinced, that it is your intention to destroy the constitution, and to make the people know no law, but the WILL of a bloody and revengeful tyrant. To assert in the most peaceable manner, our undoubted rights as freemen, and to express in strong and nervous terms a proper sense of our injuries and oppressions, is by your Lordship called seditious and treasonable; and from your dextrous management, weight, and influence in the House of Lords, it appears, that you can imprison, or take away the life from any man, or set of men, who may be unfortunate enough to incur your displeasure; nay, it is not doubted, but your power and abilities are sufficient to turn the common prayer book into treason (and it is believed you would do it) to accomplish your own, or your master's black and bloody purposes.

The time, my Lord, is near at hand, when the people must apply a fair remedy to this foul disease. I am convinced violence is intended against them, and violence must meet it. The common freedom of England is at stake, and it is the common interests of Britons to defend it. The sword, it is to be feared, will soon be the only judge of the controversy, and decide the dispute. The whole nation, my Lord, look upon you and the court faction, as a herd of wild beasts, who live by rapine, plunder and blood, and it will be for the public interest to hunt you down. The very first attempt of force will set the people in a flame, they will rise together, and the work is done; you are too few for them to fear, and as the authors and instruments of their intended destruction, you will deservedly fall, without either pity, redress, or mercy! even the Romish faith, blasphemy, and nonsense of the present bench of Bishops will not be able to save you.

Your Lordship's malice and revenge against the friends of freedom and legal government, was never more clearly evidenced to the world than in the sentence passed against the printer of the General Advertiser, because he had expressed a peculiar kind of joy, as every true Englishman did, on the acquittal of Admiral Keppel, from the foul designs of your colleagues in corruption and infamy, Sandwich and Palliser, to take away his life. I lose all patience, and cannot restrain the rage and indignation I feel against your Lordship, when I reflect on this, and the sentence passed on Thursday the 10th instant in the court of King's Bench, upon those Scots usurpers of government, and murderers of Lord Pigot, George Stratton, Charles Floyer, Henry Brooke, and George Mackay, convicted upon the clearest and most unequivocal evidence by an English jury, of having deposed without the least cause or shadow of right, and in the most cruel and tyrannical manner his Lordship from the government of Madras in India. The coroner's inquest also brought in a verdict on the death of Lord Pigot, wilful murder, against the same humane gentlemen; and yet printing a few hand bills, and dispersing them about the town, which could not possibly be attended with any fatal consequence, was a crime in the eyes of your Lordship, of much greater magnitude than that of murder, and a subversion of government. Parker, because he happened to be an enemy to despotism and Scotch treachery, which was his only guilt, is to suffer a cruel and unjust imprisonment of one year, in Newgate, whilst murder and treason, when it happens to be in favour of government, deserves no punishment at all; a fine of one thousand pounds obliterates the guilt, and the criminals are set free. It is well known, my Lord, you was ever the friend of tyranny and lawless violence, and we are not much surprized to find you the supporter and defender of every villain who zealously engages in the oppression and ruin of mankind.

Another reason, my Lord, may be assigned for this very extraordinary sentence, a Nabob with a plumb in his pocket, cannot be guilty of any crime, and we may soon know the price of blood in the court of King's Bench. Judges have been warped from their duty by bribes long before your Lordship was called to the bar, some have been called to an account and severely fined, and many have been punished with death.

### Two Hundred Dollars Reward.

Strayed from Princeton, on the 12th or 13th inst.

**A** SORREL MARE, with white mane and tail, 9 or 10 years old, near 14 and a half hands high, a natural pacer, the fetlocks of her fore feet have been lately trimmed. Any person who will secure said mare, and deliver her to Captain James Moore in Princeton, shall be entitled to the above reward.

JAMES RIDDLE.

September 15, 1780.

3w†

The Price of this Gazette is 2/6, paid in Produce, or 3/9 hard Cash, or the exchange thereof in Continental Money at the time of payment per Quarter.

Trenton, September 22, 1780.

**W**HEREAS the Honourable the Congress, being desirous of doing all possible justice to the citizens of the United States, have resolved, That upon report being made to them of the money due in each state to the inhabitants thereof, warrants will immediately issue for the payment of the same:

Therefore the subscriber requests and hopes, that all persons having any demands against the Quartermasters and Foragers in this state for any debts contracted, or service done, between the 2d day of March 1778, and the 20th day of September 1780, will immediately bring in the same to the person who made the contract or purchase, in order that the same may be adjusted and reported. And the subscriber being very desirous of accomplishing this business with all possible dispatch, proposes to give attendance at his office in Trenton all the month of October next.

The subscriber also requests all persons within this state, having any publick property in their hands, or knowing of any in the hands of any other person, immediately to return or report the same to the nearest Quartermaster, or to him. Any person secreting publick property after this notice, will be prosecuted according to law.

MOORE FURMAM,  
Late D. Q. M. Gen. New-Jersey.

To all whom it may concern:

New-Jersey, Middlesex County, ff

**B**Y virtue of an order from the Honourable the Justices of the Supreme Court of this state, I am directed to certify the Public, that Courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery will be held at Princeton, in and for the county of Middlesex, on Tuesday the 17th day of October next;—All Justices of the Peace, Coroners, Constables, and other officers and ministers of justice of the said county, are hereby desired that they be then and there in their own persons, with their rolls, records, indictments, and other remembrances; and all persons who will prosecute, or can bear testimony in behalf of the state against any offenders in the said county, are desired likewise to give their attendance on the day, and at the place aforesaid.

Sept. 11, 1780. 4w JOHN PIATT, Sher.

### T O B E S O L D,

Peremptorily for Cash,

**T**WO good HOUSES, with their appurtenances, in Trenton. Enquire of the Printer. Also some Bed Furniture, &c. 3w\*

ROBERT EASTBURN,  
OF NEW-BRUNSWICK,

Hath for SALE, for Cash or Country Produce,

**T**WO Houses and Lots of ground, situate in the township of Hillsborough, county of Somerset, at the place called Coughtown; the one a new unfinished house, with a barn; the other is rented till next May, but may then be entered upon. Said Eastburn hath also for sale, for cash or country produce, good West-India rum, spirit, wine, Holland gin, molasses, tea, sugar, coffee, chocolate, allspice, ginger, pepper, snuff, indigo by the quantity, rosin, primers, &c. Also sundry kind of dry goods as usual.

### WANTED,

**T**WO experienced Harponiers in the whaling business, to enter the first day of November next, to whom good encouragement will be given by Henry Guest at New-Brunswick.

N. B. None need apply without having proper vouchers of their dexterity in the business. 15w

RANAWAY,

On the evening of the 17th instant,

**A** NEGRO MAN called NED, a stout fellow about five feet ten or eleven inches high, speaks very low; had on and took with him when he went away, a wool hat with white loops, a brown homespun coat, one woollen check and a tow cloth shirt, and two pair of tow cloth trousers. Whoever apprehends and secures the said negro, so that his master may have him again, shall be amply rewarded, and all reasonable charges paid by the subscriber.

J. WINTERS.

Rocky-Hill, Sept. 19, 1780.