

The MARYLAND GAZETTE.

9

[XXIst Year.]

THURSDAY, March 6, 1766.

[N^o. 1069.]

L O N D O N, November 1.

To the PRINTER of the PUBLIC LEDGER.

*The Dawn is over, the Morning light
is heavily in Clouds, and the Day
is Great the Important Day.*

By which the Fate of BRITAIN and HER
PROVINCES.

THIS is the fatal Day on which the Stamp-Duty takes Place in North-America, and which already has given such innate Discontent at Boston, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New-York, Philadelphia, Virginia, and Carolina: that God only knows what will be the Consequences, unless the Wisdom of Government, by lenitive Means, prevents them. It is indeed an unhappy Thing to give Discontent to Fourteen Provinces, that contain about Three Millions of LOYAL SUBJECTS, who are a GREAT and POWERFUL Part of this Empire.

That this Day is Big with many Evils, let the Exchange of London, and all the Manufacturing Towns of this Kingdom testify: For it is well known and admitted that the Trade to our Colonies is reduced within these Twelve Months above One Half, and that our Colonies are not only endeavouring to make their own Goods, but are withdrawing their Affections from this Country, to whose Power they so lately Gloried, and Contributed.

MARCUS AURELIUS.

To the PRINTER of the PUBLIC LEDGER,
London, Nov. 12, 1765.

IN several of your late Papers, I have found the Behaviour of the American Colonies very severely censured; and Read, with no little Dissatisfaction, a Number of Arguments tending to inflame the Mother Country against the unfortunate Inhabitants of the Plantations, without doing sufficient Justice to the Nature of their Grievances, or properly setting forth the Foundation of their Complaints.

The great Argument which the Enemies of the Colonies urge against the Repeal of the Stamp-Law, is the Reasonableness of their bearing a Part in all the Burdens of the Mother Country, since the Mother Country has principally incurred these Burdens by exerting Herself in their Defence. The Gentlemen who talk in this Manner, seem to think, that the Colonies are a useless Number of Dependencies, who do not pay a single Six-pence towards the general Welfare; if these sagacious Enquirers would however talk to any Person conversant with Trade, they would immediately see that One Third at least of all the British Manufactures, was constantly purchased by the Colonies; and, that of Course, the Colonies by that Purchase, paid a full Third of all the British Taxes. Every Body knows that the numberless Articles in all our various Manufactures are all of them subject to a Duty of some Kind, and that this Duty is ultimately paid by the Buyer; when this is considered, I fancy few People will be hardy enough to say, that the Colonies have been altogether useless to the Mother Country; and fewer still inclined to affirm, that during the late War they contributed nothing towards their own Defence. If of late the Colonies have abated in their Demands for British Manufactures, the People of Great Britain may thank themselves; the injudicious Restriction which the Mother Country has laid upon the American Commerce, at Length recoiled upon herself; in Order therefore to make up for the Loss, which she has thus sustained thro' her own Avidity, she now proceeds to squeeze a Supply from the very Vitals of the Colonies; and prepares to force that Assistance from her unhappy Children, which they formerly poured in with the utmost Alacrity of themselves.

Ay, but say the Enemies of America, have not the Colonies been raised, protected, and established by the Mother Country? Has not the Mother Country upon all Occasions, stood forth in their Defence, and has she not of Course a Right to treat the Creatures of her own Formation in any

Manner she thinks fit? Indeed if the People of Great Britain intended to erect so many Plantations of Slaves merely to carry every Burden which they thought proper to impose: if they intended their Colonies never should know the Blessing of Freedom; and designed they should be eternally left exposed without Property and without Law; then it must be confessed, that the Behaviour of the Mother Country is perfectly consistent; but if at the original Institution of Settlements we had the least Notion of placing the Adventurers upon a Footing with ourselves, if we once supposed, that by promoting what we ourselves looked upon as the general Interest, the Adventurous Part of our Fellow Subjects did not forfeit all their Claim to Liberty as Citizens, and all their Pretensions to Equity as Men; then Candour itself must acknowledge, that the Usage which they have met of late is not altogether to be justified; and that it is at least repugnant to that exquisite Tenderness which the Mother Country affects to cherish for her unhappy Children of America.

The Writers against the Colonies make Use of an Argument, which they look upon as utterly unanswerable: If (say they) the People of the Colonies, are really the good Subjects they pretend to be; they would, instead of flying to Acts of Violence, have waited with Patience till the Meeting of Parliament, and then in the customary Manner have petitioned for Redress. There are many Writers I find, who run into Assertions without being acquainted with Facts. Perhaps One Half of these worthy Gentlemen who disclaim in so popular a Manner against the unfortunate Colonies, never heard that they sent over repeated Petitions, and that these Petitions, instead of being heard, were continually ordered to lie upon the Table. Where a large Body of Subjects are treated in this Manner, we may naturally suppose, that a few of them will run into some Excess. For this Reason, therefore, instead of being astonished that so many Disorders have been committed, I am surprized at not hearing many more. The Object in View is no less than Liberty, and we cannot wonder that a People bred up by ourselves, have so natural an Aversion to be Slaves.

'Tis however in the Power of the present Ministry to remove all Subjects of Contention; they have been called to Power on purpose to redress the Blunders of their Predecessors. The Hardships under which the Americans groan are none of the Least: The Colonies are far from wishing to be independent—All they wish is to be treated like Fellow Subjects, and like Men; they know very well, that without the Protection of Great-Britain, they must fall a Prey to some other European Powers; but they may as well be ruined by any other Hand, as by that which has been the original Cause of their Establishment; and which now so unaccountably imagines, that from a Principle of Gratitude they should tamely submit to be destroyed. I am, Sir, &c.

AMERICUS.

To the PRINTER of the PUBLIC ADVERTISER.

HAVING promised to send you my Thoughts concerning North-America, I shall begin with remarking, that those who write on that Subject observe, that between 15 and 20 Years the Inhabitants of a Country are doubled, where there is Land enough to be taken up, and where the Climate is tolerable good; now it is evident that the Consumption of Manufactures depends on the Number of Inhabitants.

The Consumption of British Manufactures in North-America, from the Custom-House Books for some Years past, appears to be about two Millions Sterling Yearly, only by the prudent Schemes of these wise Gentlemen it is reduced One Half for this last Year; and if the New Ministry do not rectify their Blunders, it will sink to little or nothing, whereas by a proper Attention to what a wise Administration may bring the Advantages from North-America, the Advantages must be immense. Let us suppose the slowest Increase of Inhabitants, that is, that they Double every Twen-

ty Years, it is evident that Twenty Years hence the Consumption of British Manufactures in North-America, must be Four Millions, if proper Encouragement be given to our Settlements there, and Forty Years hence, that Consumption will be Eight Millions, and Sixty Years hence Sixteen Millions, and so in Proportion; for hereafter must Great Britain be supported by North-America.

By the single Article of Naval Stores, we are Yearly out of Pocket to Russia, Sweden, and Denmark, Seven or Eight Hundred Thousand Pounds Yearly, with all those, viz. Iron, Hemp, Tar, Timber, &c. we can be furnished with from North-America, and all that Money saved to the Nation, by its being returned for our Manufactures. We send to the South of Europe great Sums for Raw Silk, Brandy, Wine, &c. all these may be raised in North-America, in short, by North-America we may be the most powerful Nation in Europe, and its Trade is of more Consequence to us than all our other Trade together.

But these wise Gentlemen took it into their Heads to maintain, that the Riches of North-America was a Loss to this Country, and therefore sent Ships of War to prevent their getting any to send to their Mother Country in Exchange for what they wanted; and after depriving them of a Possibility of getting Money to pay for Necessaries, they very wisely imposed Taxes on them which they were unable to pay, and by a Method contrary to their Charters: so that they have treated them in the Way the Children of Israel were by the Egyptians, when they were ordered to make Bricks without Straw, and very probably it may have the same Effect, viz. to alienate their Affection from their Mother Country, and to deprive it of its greatest Support, and enslave it to France.

Let us suppose the Stamp-Duties they have imposed could be raised, it would not raise so many Thousand Pounds near to the Public, as we risk the Loss of Millions, by this Wise and Right-timed Project.

I don't choose to enter into the Discussion of that Question, how far a British Parliament may impose Taxes on North-America, I shall only observe, that by their Charters their Assemblies have the sole Power of imposing Taxes, in the same Way as the House of Commons in Ireland have: And would any Wise Minister advise his Majesty to dispute that Privilege with Ireland, and so occasion an universal Rebellion? Is it consistent with the Justice or Generosity of the British Nation to induce the Predecessors of the Inhabitants of North-America to venture their Lives and Properties, to settle in Woods and amongst Savages, and after they have, by unspeakable Dangers and Difficulties, got a comfortable Settlement, to take away the Effect of those very Charters by which they were induced to settle there.

By Law all Lands are originally in the Crown, and flow from it to their Subjects, on what Terms the Crown thinks fit, but after these Lands are granted, it is not in the Power of the Crown to resume these Grants; and if the Crown and Parliament jointly should deprive any Subject of their Property or Privileges, it would be unjust, tho' that Subject had not Power to resist.

There are in North-America about 200,000 Men able to carry Arms, and can it be imagined they will tamely give up a Privilege they derive from their Ancestors, of Taxing themselves?

Insinuations are thrown out by Anti-Settlers, the Detractor, and a Parcel of dirty, venal Scribblers, employed by the late patriotic Ministry, as they call them, that it is prudent to keep these Colonists in Subjection, lest they forget their Dependence on their Mother Country; and of Consequence to prevent their being too rich.

Such People's Way of reasoning deserves to be despised, rather than answered. Is it not evident, if they are not rich, they cannot make us rich? And as to their Affection to their Mother Country, it is a natural Passion in the human Mind, and they have demonstrated on many Occasions that they have this Passion in the strongest Degree. All Ages are full of Examples of this Truth;—I shall amongst many, mention one:—Carthage was found-

TECH-MAKER,
B. L. I. G.
from his late Deal,
use in America,
wherein Mr.
the Town-Gent,
CH. MAKING
execute the Order
of GENTLEMEN
to favour him

TICKETS,
HENRY WARD'S

Number of the Lot.	Value of the Prize.
3	45
61	1
64	2
76	2
98	2
25	2
83	2
12	2
15	2
81	2
89	2
16	2
18	2
99	2
77	2
122	2
84	2
114	2
100	2
110	2
60	1
115	1
102	1
72	2
124	2
82	2
6	2
119	2
2	150
123	2
46	2
56	2
21	2
8	2
86	2
4	45
129	2
109	2
91	2
704	2
101	2
49	2
69	2
9	2
29	2
97	2
120	2
53	2
17	2
20	2
35	2
48	2
19	2
127	2
33	2
103	2
96	2
92	2
32	2
58	2
71	2
59	2
112	2
36	2
126	2

Where all
of a moderate
proportion.