

February 10, 1773.  
indebted to the Estate of Mr.  
Pewterer, late of Prince-  
deceased, are desired to make im-  
; and all those who have any just  
the said Estate, are requested to  
legally proved, that they may be  
by

MARY WILLETT, Executrix.  
Pewterers Business is still carried on  
House in the same Manner, and  
as were in my deceased Husband's  
M. W.

January 12, 1773.  
I the Subscriber paid my Bond to  
Jackman, of Baltimore County, for  
Currenny, payable May, 1773;  
deration of several Tracts of Land;  
as the said Jackman has not, or can-  
Bargain with me: I therefore fore-  
from taking any Assignment of said  
not pay the same.

JOHN CLARK.

February 3, 1773.  
ED to the Jail of Charles County, on  
t. as a Runaway, a Negro Man,  
HARRY, and says he belongs to  
Compton, living in Nangemay, but  
from Joseph Courts, in Virginia,  
lived; he appears to be a young Fel-  
about Five Feet Eight Inches high:  
Osnabrig Shirt, and a new one over  
thy Jacket, old Surtout Coat, and a  
ged black Everlasting Breeches, good  
Shoes and Steel Buckles.

is desired to take him away and pay

WILLIAM HANSON, deputy Sheriff.

at the Plantation of Nicholas Dorsey,  
Ridge, a pale forrel Stray Horse, a-  
high, has a Blaze in his Face, a  
fe, and a white spot on each Side of  
near hind Foot white. The Owner  
again, proving Property and paying  
3w

at the Plantation of Thomas Reynolds,  
Heal of Elk, Cecil County, a dark  
mare, Seven Years old next Spring, a  
her Forehead, neither Brand nor  
can be observed, trots, paces, and  
Owner may have her again, proving  
aying Charges. w2

Subscriber will attend the ensuing March  
Leonard-Town, Port-Tobacco, and Up-  
to collect all Balances due for this  
ntifements, &c. Those who are in ar-  
than one Year, must not only expect to  
re Gazettes, but that immediate Steps  
to compel Payment.

FREDERICK GREEN.

February 15, 1773.  
blicit Vendue, on Saturday the 6th Day  
xt, if fair, if not the next fair Day,  
iber's Dwelling Place,

Negroes, and sundry Household Far-  
nd many Plantation Utensils; and  
of almost all Kinds; a good Black-  
h Four Years and a Half to serve; a  
of Smiths Tools, One new Waggon  
neatest Manner, One good Cart.

Articles will be sold for Cash or Lea-  
change,

iber had stolen from him about the  
ember last, One gray Mare, branded  
One Letter on the Shoulder, the other  
ck, is a natural pacer, about Nine  
out Fourteen Hands high. Whoever  
d Mare, so as the subscriber may get  
all have Five Pounds Reward, and if  
brought to Conviction, Five Pounds

RICHARD YEATBS.

Subscriber had some Time past assign-  
Indentures of a certain William Nicks,  
d himself to a certain Dr. John  
the space of Three Years and Three  
as it appears he never served his  
are therefore to acquaint the Publick,  
Person will apprehend the said Nicks,  
ing him to the Subscriber, shall have  
ation for their Trouble, and all rea-  
nces, paid by.

Baltimore, January 16, 1773.

ons having any just Claim against the  
of Col. Charles Ridgely, deceased, are  
d in their Accounts, properly proved,  
are indebted to the said Estate, are  
red to come and pay to prevent Expence  
, and Trouble to

CHARLES RIDGELY,  
DANIEL CHAMIER,  
WILLIAM GOODWIN;

Executors.

Prints omitted will be inserted in our next

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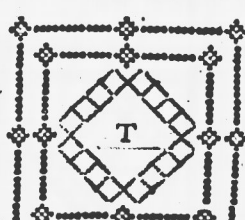
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(XXVIII<sup>th</sup> YEAR.)

# MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1773.

TO THE PEOPLE.



HAT we live in extraordinary  
times, is unfortunately too ob-  
vious to be denied, and too  
much felt, not to be generally  
deplored. Social intercourse  
is now unhappily interrupted,  
by fruitless altercation respect-  
ing the legality of the taxa-  
tion by the vestry of St. Anne's;  
and the forty per poll, and the  
officers fees, is the never failing subject of conversation.  
Such topics being lately agitated in a large company, a  
disputant who seemed to be in the secret, asserted in an-  
swer to a sarcasm on the lawyers, that their fees were es-  
tablished by an act of Assembly, and that they must be paid on  
demand of the sheriff, because leviable by execution. The  
ignorance of his antagonist prevented a reply, and the  
confidence of the assertion, seemed to preclude debate.  
It was natural to reconsider the subject in private, and  
to apply to the acts of Assembly for information.  
And, as the fees of lawyers, as well as the officers fees,  
are objects of great importance to the prosperity of the  
people, we shall freely communicate what hath occur-  
red to us on a subject so truly interesting.

Many acts of Assembly were made before the year  
1715, to prevent the evil practices of attorneys, and to as-  
certain their fees: but the lawyers of old, as well as the  
present race, seem to have possessed the happy knack  
"of finding some legal loop-hole whereby to creep out."  
This we presume, gave rise to the act of Assembly of  
1715, ch. 48, hinted at by the above disputant, and  
entitled, *An act for redressing the ill practices of attorneys  
of this province, and ascertaining fees to the attorney-gen-  
eral, clerk of indictments, attorneys and practitioners of the  
law in the courts of this province, and for levying the same  
by way of execution.* Two points of great importance  
to the welfare of the people, were attempted to be  
gained by the makers of this act—1<sup>st</sup>, the ascertain-  
ing and limiting the lawyers fees—2<sup>d</sup>, the rectifying  
and preventing their evil practices. The attorneys  
fees were ascertained and limited by the 7<sup>th</sup> sect. of  
this act, which enacted, "That from and after the end  
of this present session of Assembly, there shall be paid to any  
attorney or other person practising the law in any of the  
county courts of this province, for bringing, prosecuting, or  
defending any action, of what nature or quality soever, to  
final judgment, agreement, or other end thereof, the sum of  
one hundred pounds of tobacco; unless the principal debt and  
damage, or balance of any debt and damages sued for and  
recovered, do exceed the sum of two thousand pounds of to-  
bacco, or ten pounds sterling; that then the said attorney  
shall have two hundred pounds of tobacco, and no more"—  
&c. And, their ill practices were rectified, and pre-  
vented, as well by the act throughout, as by the 7<sup>th</sup>  
sect. which enacted, "That if any attorney or other per-  
son practising the law in any of the aforesaid courts, do pre-  
sume to ask, receive, take or demand, any greater or larger  
fee than before by this act appointed, and be thereof legally  
convicted, he shall be incapable to practise the law in any  
court of this province for the future." The curious reader  
may have recourse to this act of Assembly in Ba-  
con.

That a lawyer is intitled to his reasonable fee, justice  
must confess: the how much, is ascertained and limited  
by the act of Assembly just recited: but the time when  
the reasonable fee is to be paid, is a question of great  
importance to the people of this province. It is ob-  
vious to common sense (if we have permission to use  
it) that every reward becomes due, after the service is per-  
formed. The Assembly adopted this rule, and therefore  
enacted—That the attorneys should be intitled to the  
fees mentioned in this law, for bringing, prosecuting, or  
defending any action to final judgment, agreement, or other  
end thereof. Until the lawyer, therefore, prosecutes  
the action to final judgment, agreement, or other end there-  
of, he is not to be paid his fee, because, under the above  
act of Assembly, it is not earned, or become due.  
And this is founded in the strictest justice, and sup-  
ported by the soundest policy. For says justice, the  
labourer is worthy of his hire, when he has performed the  
service: and, says policy, the lawyer ought not to be  
paid his fee; till he has ended the suit, because, after the  
client hath paid the fee, the cause is but too often  
neglected; the client himself wearied with humble at-  
tendance, is received with peevishness, and the poor  
man, already ruined by the law's delay, is insulted by  
the insolence of sudden greatness.

The late inspection law permitted the lawyers to  
send out their fees to the sheriffs to be collected annu-  
ally: but, unfortunately, this law now no longer ex-  
ists. The lawyers, however, continue to send out  
their fees to be collected by the sheriffs though the  
suits remain undetermined, and the service is not perform-  
ed. And, though this proceeding may be defended on the  
admirable principles of the vestrymen of St. Anne's,  
that after the expiration of an act of Assembly, its regula-  
tions continue in force, by we do not know what law,  
called by them, common law, custom, and usage.  
Yet it is plain to any man of common sense (if such  
are allowed by the lawyers to judge), that the proceed-

ing is illegal, arbitrary, and unjust, and not to be de-  
fended. It is illegal, because contrary to the act of  
Assembly above recited; it is arbitrary, because sup-  
ported by the mere will of the lawyers only: and, it is  
unjust, because the services remain unperformed. To  
execute for such fees, the remaining pittance of the un-  
fortunate client, already ruined by the most illegal ex-  
tortions, is shocking to humanity: and, to lay the  
naked corpse of the miserable wretch (even before it has  
expired) on the thorns of a jail, who hath already given  
his all, is such cruelty, "as beggars all description."  
Blush lawyers! blush! Countermand your orders to the  
sheriffs. Recal your fees till you have done the  
services, and ended the suits of your clients. Give  
over your monstrous extortions. Cease your illegal  
exactions. And, "give back peace and happiness to  
a convulsed province." If the lawyers obey not the  
calls of justice, or the rules of humanity, let such fees  
be unanimously denied: when the sheriffs demand  
such fees, let the questions be asked, Have the lawyers  
done the services? Have they ended the suits? If not,  
refuse them with disdain: nor, is there any thing to  
fear from the sheriffs, for the miserable clients have  
law and justice on their side.

What is extortion in the eye of the law, and for  
which a prosecution might be brought, we are unable  
to say: but we remember the description of it, given  
by the present Lower House of Assembly, viz. the  
very nature of extortion is, "taking more, by any officer,  
by colour of his office, either where none at all is due, or not  
so much is due, or when it is not yet due. This  
needs no comment—it is on a level with the meanest  
capacity."

To preserve the needy from the gripe of rapacious-  
ness—to protect the man already depressed with mis-  
fortunes, from the contemptuous usage of the insolent  
—to prevent the most crying extortions—and to give  
efficacy to the act of Assembly above recited, are ob-  
jects well deserving the attention, and interposition of  
the legislature of a people, free, and humane. But,  
from the Assembly, though much is to be desired, little  
can be expected. For the pestilential influence of a cer-  
tain race of men, in a certain House, is well known, and  
ardently deplored. And we have lamented, that a bill  
respecting lawyers fees, having been sent to the Upper  
House in a very late session, it was amended by adding  
an oath, to be administered to the lawyers, That they  
would not take, demand, or receive any other, or greater  
fees than allowed by the bill. This amendment was noth-  
ing more, than giving efficacy to the bill, than add-  
ing force to the act of Assembly above recited. Noble  
policy! which had for its object, the prevention of  
crimes, rather than the punishment of them. But when  
the amendment was sent to the Lower House, there  
was not a man, no not one, who had virtue or spirit  
enough to say, he liked the amendment, and hoped the  
bill would pass.—Si populus vult decipi, decipiatur.

A CLIENT.

TO WILLIAM PACA, Esq;

SIR,  
I WOULD not willingly be wanting in a due atten-  
tion to you; else, I own, I see but little in this  
your last address, to me, that calls for my notice.  
The paragraph in my letter to you and Mr. Chafe,  
which you have thought proper, singly, to reply to,  
stands much as it did; save only, that you have more  
strongly confirmed the charge. It is, I think, the  
fate of your replies, to leave things worse than you  
found them.

I commend your prudence, in not contradicting  
what I there advanced.—You were conscious, I made  
the assertion, on good authority. Why then, Mr.  
Paca, do you meanly seek to evade the force of a  
charge, which you cannot deny, by insinuations as  
groundless, as they are unmannerly?—if ever the ac-  
knowledgegment was made! Eic, Sir, is this the language  
of a gentleman? Were the cause you espouse, a better  
one, than it is, you would disgrace it. Of what mo-  
ment was it to you, who carried the tale, provided  
only, it be true: and, Sir, give me leave to say, this  
busy tale-bearer was a gentleman of undoubted honour  
and veracity; though, happily, not quite so silly, as  
to imagine that there could be any disbonour in relating  
to me, a parson though I am, a tale communicated to  
him (as, probably, it was also to as many as you con-  
versed with on the subject) not in confidence, nor un-  
der any injunctions of secrecy.

True wit and manly satire bear no more resemblance  
to buffoonery and scurrility than Hyperion to a Satyr.  
I leave it to our readers to say, to which of these your  
little sneers at Parson Boucher belong. I have no design  
to defend myself by recriminations of this sort: in  
your own well-chosen words, Sir, I abhor such ungentle-  
man-like controversy, and the ill-manner'd men that write it.  
Unfortunately, it seems, for your worthy friend, and  
myself, you are now, once more re-instated in a firm  
conviction, that your opinion is found law. This is,  
terrible! and I suppose, we may now give up all hopes

of a possibility of the act's being valid, as, doubtless,  
the opinion only of the reconsidering and re-asserting  
Mr. Paca, will be taken for law by every body.  
as it evidently is, by himself. Had I the honour of an  
acquaintance with your first Citizen, I would ask him,  
if this specimen does not prove you too, to be fully  
sensible of the wisdom of the French maxim, *il faut se  
faire valoir*.

You are pleased to deny, that you boasted of your  
opinion being unanswered; and allege that you only  
meant to give me an opportunity of exhibiting my [legal]  
talents; as you had been told that I had furnished myself  
with law-books, and had some legal knowledge. Either  
you must have believed this information, or you chal-  
lenged me to display what you did not really think me  
in possession of. If the former be the fairest inference  
from the whole of your own state; with what colour  
of propriety did you pronounce me but a mere echo up-  
on legal topics? If a clergyman had been thus caught  
tripping in the face of the publick; what arguments  
would not have been drawn from it by Mr. Paca and  
his friends, to the disreputation of his morality and  
understanding!

To your boast, that your opinion had the sanction  
of Mess. Johnson's and Goldborough's approbation, I  
reply, that, if you will allow the controversy to be de-  
termined by the suffrages of eminent gentlemen of the  
law, I take upon me to answer for every incumbent in  
the province, to leave it to this issue. Let us see how  
the account would then stand: Against the law, are  
Mess. Chafe, Paca, Johnson and Goldborough—I  
have not heard of another: For it, (I believe) every  
other lawyer in Maryland. And, with all due defer-  
ence to the eminence of your abilities, and the patriot-  
ism of your principles, I trust there are some in the  
profession, equal, at the least, to any of you, both in  
legal knowledge, and a just regard for the real welfare  
of their country.

The hint, you say, I dropped respecting your courtly  
life, if given at all, was given equally to Mr. Chafe,  
and you. Why then unkindly leave him out in your  
vindication? His adversary as I am, I will do him the  
justice to declare, that he stood in no need of a vindi-  
cation, on this head, from any hints dropped by me.  
In truth, Mr. Paca, like the king in Hamlet, you  
have been frightened by a false fire. Whether you had  
any particular reasons for so suddenly taking the alarm,  
uncharitable people may, if they please, surmise: for  
me, I content myself with observing, that the only  
hint I have dropped, was, that your life had been, at  
the least, as courtly as mine, which, Sir, it may well  
have been, and you very innocent of any designs inimi-  
cal to your country; and this too spoken in so plain  
a manner, that I cannot conceive it possible for you to  
have mistaken it, but by design. However, if it has  
been of any service to you in giving you occasion thus  
triumphantly to proclaim your immaculate purity, you  
are exceedingly welcome to it.

Twice have you shot your bolt at some anonymous  
writers through me. What am I to understand from  
this? Is it, that you would insinuate, that you suspect  
me to have written these papers? I guess so: but ear-  
ger as you are to find out these secrets, I am not dis-  
posed, if it be in my power, to gratify your curiosity.  
As *Reps*, your reply to the epigram, I think, I remem-  
ber, which I suppose you to allude to, reminds me of a  
story I have heard of a malefactor, who, when the  
judge passed sentence on him, swore "he was a sad,  
hard-hearted villain."

Permit me, for once, to copy your manner, and,  
through you, to observe to the writer in the last paper,  
who signs himself, *Ariel*, that where he says "Clergy-  
men are not over solicitous for, or careful of the in-  
terests of their successors, provided their own be suf-  
fered to remain unimpaired," he grossly misrep-  
resents the clergy. I pretend to know something of the  
minds of my brethren, and I hope I deserve to be cre-  
dited as well as an inflammatory, anonymous, party-  
writer, when I declare, that it is the earnest wish of  
the present incumbents, who consider themselves but  
as trustees for posterity, to have the patrimony of the  
church handed down to their successors in no worse a  
condition than they found it.—Many individuals of  
the clergy have given striking proofs of it, and recent-  
ly: it has, moreover, I believe, been asserted again  
and again in various petitions of the clergy to the  
General Assembly, and is a principal argument against  
any alteration in the present mode of payment, in a  
piece, printed in this Gazette, in October 1771, and  
signed, "An Eastern-Shore Clergyman." How wicked  
then is it in this man, thus rashly to calumniate a bo-  
dy of men, not inconsiderable in the community, in a  
plain matter of fact, so very easy to be refuted! What  
foundation there may be for his other conjectures con-  
cerning the parsons (how decent, and how elegant this  
language!) you will, probably, hear elsewhere. Be  
this as it may, singular and melancholy is the situation  
of the clergy of Maryland! They have no more con-  
nexion either with officers, or lawyers, than any others  
of their fellow-citizens: and yet they alone, it would  
seem, are to suffer by the quarrel.—*Delicatus reges,  
placatur Achiivi*.