

look'd upon as incendiaries, be their pretences to patriotism what they will.

Well, but those, or some of those, who are supposed to have some share in the administration of the government, will derive great advantages from the scheme proposed, if it takes effect. Be it so; and it cannot be doubted, but that if it does take effect, and proves of general advantage, they will have a proportionable share of such advantages; and what then? Is it a reasonable or just objection? Are they not a part of the society, and must they not bear a proportionable part of every misfortune and calamity under which the society, of which they are members, labours? They certainly must; and can any thing be more cruel and unjust (were it practicable), than to deprive them of a proportionable share of any thing that may be of general advantage? Or ought the whole society to lose the benefit of any thing which, in all human probability, may promote it's general happiness, because some individuals cannot be excluded from what may fall to their share? This, methinks, favours too much of the spirit of the malicious and revengeful heathen, who prayed to Jupiter to deprive him of one of his eyes, upon condition that his enemy was struck quite blind. I am

*Your humble servant,*

THE MARYLAND PLANTER.

H A G U E, March 5.

WE learn from Breda, that the Ministers have held a conference, in which the admission of the Ministers of the courts of Vienna and Turin was agreed upon: Accordingly, the Count d' Harrach, minister plenipotentiary for the empress, set out yesterday for Breda with the countess his lady. 'Tis thought the conferences will begin to-morrow or next day, and that M. du Theil, minister plenipotentiary from France, will propose the conditions upon which his most Christian Majesty is disposed to make a peace.

Hanover, Feb. 7. Orders are just come from London, for causing a good body of troops of this electorate to march without fail to the Low-countries, by the middle of March: This body is not in British pay, but his Britannic majesty will furnish it as elector of Hanover. Yesterday a courier passed thro' this city from Copenhagen to London, with, as it is said, the agreeable news, that the king of Denmark had resolved to hold a body of 12000 men in readiness to march, by virtue of a convention lately enter'd into with the king our sovereign, and that general Schulenburg is to have the command thereof in chief.

L O N D O N, March 20.

Yesterday at two o'clock the Right Hon. the Lord High Steward pronounced sentence of death on Simon Lord Lovat; his Lordship made a long speech, in regard to his loyalty to his late Majesty, and the present royal family, and the great service he did in the year 1715, in being instrumental in suppressing that rebellion; his Lordship mentioned the great esteem the late and present King had for him, and that he never shewed any disrespect, but only once, being out of temper at his company of Highlanders being broke, which was misconstrued to his advantage. His Lordship had several sentences of humour in his speech.

Afterwards Lord High Steward asked him, if he had any thing to move in arrest of judgment; to which he replied, that he insisted on his evidences being sent for; on which the lords withdrew to their house, and returned in about half an hour. Lord Lovat then stood up, and humbly hoped their Lordships would excuse his rude long speech, and wished he had the eloquence of his cousin M-----y. Afterwards the Lord high Steward made an affecting speech, and pronounced the sentence.

Then Lord Lovat said, as he had given proofs of his loyalty to the late and present King, he hoped his Lordship would recommend him to his Majesty's mercy.

Then, turning to the commons, he said, he hoped the worthy managers of the house, as they were stout, would be merciful; and, going from the bar, said, *God bless you all, I wish you an everlasting farewell, for we shall never meet again in this place.*

Feb. 27. Some Letters mention the Arrival of M. Belleisle at Paris, and that he has been to wait upon the King his Master at Versailles; from whence it is imagined he will go to Breda, as chief Plenipotentiary in the Conferences.

The Maryland Merchant, Humphreys, from Virginia to London, is taken by the French.

Letter, Feb. 23. They write from Seaford, that on Saturday last, the Sky, a French Privateer, fell in with the Furnace Bomb, a 20 Gun Ship, off that Place, about 11 o' Clock in the Morning, whom she took to be a Dutchman; and was taken about 5 in the Afternoon, after a short Engagement. The said Privateer had on board 62 Men, besides Officers, which are at present confined in Seaford Church, and the Officers are kept on board. She has used this Coast as a Smuggling Cutter, and so made prey of every thing she could lay Hands on in her Return. The Captain of her is a Swiss, and well known in this Country.

B O S T O N, April 27.

The following is a Letter from Capt. Phineas Stevens, Commander of the Fort at No. 4, about 40 Miles above Northfield, dated April 7. 1747.

"Our dogs being very much disturbed, which gave us reason to think the Enemy were about, occasion'd us not to open the Gate at the usual time; but one of our Men being desirous to know the certainty, ventured our privately, to set on the dogs, about Nine o'clock in the Morning, and went about 20 Rods from the Fort, firing off his Gun, and saying, *Chaboy* to the dogs; whereupon the Enemy (being within a few Rods) immediately arose from behind a Log, and fired, but through the goodness of God, the Man got into the Fort, with only a slight wound. The Enemy being then discovered, immediately arose from all their Ambushments, and attack'd us on all sides: The Wind being very high, and every thing exceeding dry, they set fire to all the old Fences, and an old Log House about 40 Rods distance from the Fort, to the Windward, so that within a few Minutes we were entirely surrounded with fire; all which was perform'd with the most hideous shouting, firing from all Quarters, which they continued in a very terrible manner till the next day at 10 o'clock at Night, without Intermission; in which Time we had no Opportunity either to eat or sleep: But notwithstanding all their shoutings and threatnings, our men seem'd not to be in the least daunted, but fought with great Resolution, which doubtless gave the Enemy reason to think we had determin'd stand to it out to the last. The Enemy had provided themselves with a sort of a Fortification, which they had determin'd to push before them, and so bring Fuel to the side of the Fort, in order to burn it down; but instead of performing what they had threatned, and seem'd to be immediately going to undertake, they call'd to us, and desired a cessation of Arms till Sun-rise the next Morning, (which was granted) at which Time they said they would come to a Parley. Accordingly the French General Debelina came with about 50 or 60 of his Men with a Flag of Truce, and stuck it down within 20 Rods of the Fort, in plain sight of the same, and said, if we would send three Men to him, he would send as many to us; to which we complied. The General sent in a French Lieutenant, with a French soldier and an Indian. Upon our Mens going to the Monsieur, he made the following Proposal, viz. That in case we would immediately resign up the Fort, we should all have our Lives, and have Liberty to put on the Cloaths we had, and also take a sufficient Quantity of Provision to carry us to Montreal, and bind up our Provision and Blankets, lay down our Arms, and march out of the Fort. Upon our Men's returning, he desired that the captain of the Fort would meet him half Way, and give an Answer to the above Proposal, which I did; and upon my meeting the Monsieur, he did not wait to have me give an Answer, but went on in the following Manner, viz. That what he promisd he was ready to perform, but upon our Refusal he would immediately set the Fort on fire, or run over the Top, for he had 700 Men with him, and if we made any further Resistance, and should happen to kill one Indian, we might expect all to be put to the Sword. The Fort, said he, I am resolv'd to have, or die; now do what you please, for I am as easy to have you fight as to give it up. I told the General, that in case of Extremity his Proposal would do, but inasmuch as I was sent here by my Master the captain General to defend this Fort, it would not be consistent with my Orders to give it up, unless I was better satisfied