

In England almost every objection to the execution of this plan, is removed; places of high trust and importance are bestowed upon those who will act in subserviency to the views of the court, those who might impede those views, are divested of power, and disabled from any effectual opposition. Experience has shewn, that the pensions and places in the gift of the crown have as great an influence on the nobility, whose estates might set them above dependence, as upon common men; for luxury is boundless, and can render the possessor of the greatest estate as needy as a beggar, and as vulnerable to the influence of a bribe. As for the Commons, those natural guardians of the liberties of the people, though there are many worthy men among them, who do their utmost to stem the torrent of corruption, and preserve their country; yet their number is too small to answer the end: The eloquence of Cicero, the most consummate knowledge of the interests of their country, and zeal for its service, the greatest abilities and integrity, are all rendered entirely useless by a corrupt system of political tools, who vote just as they are directed: This House, therefore, which used to be the bulwark of the people's security, serves now only to give the form or appearance of legality to acts of real tyranny and oppression, by which they are deprived of their liberty and property. A great majority of the House are returned by little venal boroughs, bribed by the nation's own money, to elect such men as the ministry choose, and afterwards command to vote as they please. A friend, well acquainted with the internal state of Great Britain, assures me, "that many boroughs in the kingdom have scarce 10 persons qualified to vote for a representative in Parliament, and that all who are qualified are under the influence of some nobleman, or squire, who, if he has no person of his own family to put in, transfers the election, or rather nomination, to such adventurers as choose to purchase a seat as a means of climbing the hill of preferment. In some places there is not even a shadow of an election or town meeting. The sovereign bailiff, or rather returning officer, with two or three burgesses, go privately to the session house, and in a moment name such a one, as duly elected, without the appearance of a candidate."

"What a farce are such transactions, when the liberties of the people are thus played away at a game, wherein a corrupt government, and an ambitious covetous landlord are the only gainers!" All things being thus now in England for the open introduction of arbitrary power, nothing seems to prevent it, but the struggles of the Americans to preserve their liberties. These struggles have been doubly mortifying to the ministry, as they have thereby been not only prevented from levying a revenue upon America, but from executing their scheme, in its full extent, upon England. And unless that scheme be very soon executed, it is in danger of being blown up entirely; for matters have risen to such a crisis, the uneasiness and distress of the nation are become so general, that some violent commotion seems inevitable, and near at hand; and if a revolution should happen, and fail to establish despotism in England it would probably be fatal to those who have attempted to introduce it. The most strenuous efforts therefore will now be made, both by force and fraud, to reduce the colonies to a conformity with the measures of the ministry, who are enraged and distracted at the obstructions they meet with from that quarter.

I therefore earnestly warn you to firmness and vigilance, every art will be used both to intimidate and to deceive you; may heaven direct you to be wise and faithful to yourselves and to your country, and crown your endeavours with success. You have every thing at stake that can be dear to reasonable creatures; your freedom, your property, your posterity, your honour. The very ministry who are striving to enslave you, in spite of themselves, both honour and fear you; but if they succeed against you, will despise and spurn you.

About a fortnight ago an act of Parliament of a most extraordinary kind, to shut up the port of Boston; was passed in a most extraordinary manner, being smuggled through the House in seventeen days only from its introduction. The evidence before the Privy Council was suppressed, the agents refused a hearing at the bar, and no member for Boston or America in either House. Nor had the merchants and manufacturers in England, who will be greatly affected by the execution of this act, any proper notice of it, or opportunity to remonstrate against it. Indeed it is openly said, that many a thousand pounds were issued from the Treasury to obtain a majority in the House, and hurry it through before there should be time for opposition: So that when a body of merchants trading to Boston and America, waited on Lord North with a request that a petition might be heard against the bill, before it passed into a law, they had the mortification to find they were too late; and that the bill had already passed. As his Majesty has, by the act, a conditional power to suspend its operation, in case the tea destroyed at Boston should be paid for, the merchants

offered Lord North 19,000l. or a security to the India Company, to pay for the tea, if that suspension of the act might be procured from his Majesty. But these offers were refused; and the merchants went away much dissatisfied. As thinking people are in general against the proceedings of the ministry, especially in respect to this law, and the manner of getting it passed, which was with as much privacy and haste as possible, for it is well known, that in the manufacturing towns which will depart by it; it is expected to raise great clamour and uneasiness as soon as it comes to be generally known, and felt, by the labouring people, and the trade, the stoppage of which, in a few months will convince the ministry that they are wrong.

Every art will be used to deceive you, and either cheat or frighten you out of your freedom and property: However, I can assure you the commanders have private orders not to fight, unless they can procure to appear the aggressors, nay, they have orders not to commence hostilities, without further orders. But how soon that restriction may be taken off, God only knows, nor do I think that it is in your interest to justify, or render to you, that the ministry are not purely for fear of the consequences of sanguinary orders: Therefore, I think it is prudent, you have no occasion, at this time, to fear any tragical consequences from a refusal to be taxed by the British Parliament, who have really no right at all to tax you; not that I would persuade you to this refusal merely upon a suspicion, that the ministry will not proceed to hostile and sanguinary measures, for my opinion is, that there is nothing too absurd or wicked for them to do; but that if they should proceed to such measures, it will be better for you to die than submit to them: However, as your cause is just, and all the world must see that you are injured and oppressed, your oppressors will be condemned by all the world, both at home and abroad; and if you are but firm and prudent in your opposition, fear not but providence will interpose in your behalf, and raise you up friends to support and assist you. Some of the greatest and wisest, as well as best men in England, are already on your side, and will stand by you; your enemies have nothing but mere power, unjustly obtained and applied, to support their cause; reason and justice are altogether against them; they therefore stand on slippery ground, and totter in their stations. Lord Camden exerted himself nobly in the House of Lords in your favour: He told them the Boston bill would be productive of a train of evils, and that they would certainly have cause to repent it. Great care is taken to prevent copies of his speech from getting to America, as well as to deceive you by false intelligence. Every tool of power in America will be called, and furnished with means to mislead you by a misrepresentation of facts, and giving a false turn and colouring to every thing that it concerns you to know. Six hundred pounds per annum are paid to writers of false intelligence; and letters as well as newspapers, that might give you such intelligence as the ministry desire to conceal from you, are all stopped.

Many of the officers on the intended expedition against Boston and America, have nobly thrown up their commissions, and refused to fight against their brethren in the colonies, without a just cause; and it is expected the soldiers will desert in multitudes, from a mere sense of honour and justice.

The Scots in the House of Commons have been your great enemies. I think it would be but just in the Bostonians to withhold every farthing due to them in that town, which I am told is very considerable, especially to the city of Glasgow. Indeed I think as the port is shut up, the whole debt due from them to Great Britain should be stopped, and reprisals be made by every means in your power. The preservation of England itself and her excellent constitution, require it of you.

May God direct and prosper your counsels.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

WHEREAS I have received certain Information, that some People in different Counties of EARL GRANVILLE'S District have presumed to survey vacant Lands, without any Colour of Authority whatsoever: This is to give Notice, that there is not, nor has been since the Year 1763, any Person empowered to make Surveys of the vacant Lands in that Part of this Province; that no Respect or Regard whatever will be had to such Surveys hereafter; and that every Surveyor taking upon him to make such Surveys, without proper Authority, will be prosecuted for so doing.

Newbern, June } JO. MARTIN.
10, 1774.

POETS CORNER.
A F A B L E.

A MONKEY once a short request
To mighty Jupiter address'd:
"One humble boon, great Jove, I pray,—
Make me a Lady fine and gay."
The boon was granted in a trice,
And Madam deck'd out wond'rous nice;
To paint, in short, this heav'nly fair,
Like Cælia's were her shape and air;
Her eyes, her mouth, her ev'ry feature,
A copy of that lovely creature.
To make the grace still more compleat,
Jove plac'd the Lady near his seat;
Whence on her sex with haughty frown,
She superciliously look'd down.

But Fortune's favour and her spite
Alternate roll as day and night.
One gaudy day to her the lot
It chanc'd, an insect near her post;
Some says a beetle, some a fly;
The fact, however, some deny.
With eager speed the skip'd away
To seize the trembling, trilling prey;
Surpriz'd, the Gods all laugh'd right out,
But Jove cou'd not forbear to pout;
His Grace he saw conferr'd in vain,
And into Pug turn'd Pug again;
This learned speech, with solemn face,
Addressing loud to human race:

"Enjoy your nature as you can,
Jack ne'er will make a Gentleman;
A Coxcomb rais'd to honour's seat,
Shines still a Coxcomb more compleat;
A Jill, whose fickle mind perplex
The various trilles of her sex,
Tho' well adorn'd with lib'ral arts,
Neglecting men of sense and parts,
On Coxcomb's dear will fix her eyes,
As beetles dull, and light as flies."

WHEREAS it appears that the Books which Entries of Lands in several of Counties lying in Earl Granville's District of Province were made, while the Proprietary La Office was open, until the Decease of the late Earl Granville in the Year 1763, when that Business closed, have not yet been deposited among the cords of that Office, of which they are an essential Part; and that many of them are still in the Hands of the County Entry-Takers, appointed by the Agent of the deceased Earl, or their Representatives I do in the Name of the Right Honourable RO. Earl Granville, the present Proprietor, hereby require all Persons having Possession of any Book Books, Paper or Papers, of that or any other nature whatsoever, which have, or may have any relation to the Business of the Proprietary Estate, to deliver the same to me at Newbern, with ample Receipts will be given for them; to the End that the Office Papers may be immediately arranged in a Manner that may most effectually prevent Confusion, and the Injustice that may possibly arise of it to the People of this Province, in the future Conduct of Lord Granville's Affairs.

Halifax, May } JO. MARTIN
27, 1774.

NORTH-CAROLINA, &c.
By his Excellency JOSIAH MARTIN, Esq.
Captain-General, Governor, and Commander
in Chief, in and over the said province.

A PROCLAMATION
WHEREAS the General Assembly of this Province stands prorogued to Tuesday 26th Day of July next, I have thought proper to ther to prorogue the said Assembly until the 26th Day of September next, and it is hereby prorogued accordingly.

GIVEN under my Hand, and the Great Seal of this said Province, at Newbern, the 25th Day of June 1774, and in the 14th Year of his Majesty's Reign.
JO. MARTIN.
GOD save the KING.
By his Excellency's Command,
J. PARRATT, D. Sec.