

The NORTH-CAROLINA
MAGAZINE;
OR,
UNIVERSAL INTELLIGENCER.

From FRIDAY DECEMBER 28, to FRIDAY JANUARY 4, 1765.

The Remainder of Mr. FRANKLIN'S ANSWER to the Protest, began in Page 227.

Pass over the trivial Charge against the Assembly, that they "acted with unnecessary Haste" in proceeding to this Appointment, without making a small Adjournment, &c. and your affected Apprehensions of Danger from that Haste. The Necessity of Expedition on this Occasion is as obvious to every one out of Doors, as it was to those within; and the Fears you mention are not, I fancy, considerable enough to break your Rest. I come then to your high Charge against me, "That I heretofore ventured, contrary to an Act of Assembly, to place the Public Money in the Stocks, whereby this Province suffered a Loss of 6000 l. and that Sum added to the 5000 l. granted for my Expences, makes the whole Cost of my former Voyage to England amount to Eleven Thousand Pounds!"—How wisely was that Form in our Laws contrived, which when a Man is arraigned for his Life, requires the Evidence to speak *the Truth, the whole Truth, and nothing but the Truth!* The Reason is manifest. A Falshood may destroy the Innocent; so may Part of the Truth without the Whole; and a Mixture of Truth and Falshood may be full as pernicious. You, Mr. Chief Justice, and the other Justices among the Protestors, and you, Sir, who are a Councillor at Law, must all of you be well acquainted with this excellent Form; and when you arraign'd my Reputation (dearer to me than Life) before the Assembly, and now at the respectable Tri-

bunal of the Public, would it not have well become your Honours to have had some small Regard at least to the Spirit of that Form: You might have mentioned, that the Direction of the Act to lodge the Money in the Bank, subject to the Drafts of the Trustees of the Loan Office here, was impracticable; that the Bank refused to receive it on those Terms, it being contrary to their settled Rules to take Charge of Money subject to the Orders of unknown People, living in distant Countries.—You might have mentioned, that the House being informed of this, and having no immediate Call for the Money, did themselves adopt the Measure of placing it in the Stocks, which then were low; where it might on a Peace produce a considerable profit, and in the mean time accumulate an Interest: That they even passed a Bill directing the subsequent Sums granted by the parliament, to be placed with the former: That the Measure was prudent and safe; and that the Loss arose, not from placing the Money in the Stocks, but from the imprudent and unnecessary Drawing it out at the very time when they were lowest, on some slight uncertain Rumours of a Peace concluded: That if the Assembly had let it remain another Year, instead of losing, they would have gained Six Thousand Pounds; and that after all, since the Exchange at which they sold their Bills, was near Twenty per Cent. higher when they drew, than when the Stocks were purchased, the Loss was far from being so great as you represent it. All these Things you might have said, for they are, and you know them to be, Part of the *whole Truth*; but they would have spoiled your Accusation.

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