

first rate, for gentlemen of good sense, education, character and estate; as much so as any, perhaps, on the continent of America.

Now it appears to me exceeding impudent to attack such a body; but thanks be to kind Heaven, they are above the reach of injury from any sneaking, under-handed traitor or traitors—Though unworthy, I have had the honour and happiness of being a member, for some years, and I now declare it before God and the world, that I have never known the Synod, in any instance whatever, to have acted below their venerable character of *Ambassadors of the Lord Jesus Christ*, but with vast pleasure have observed them ever aiming nobly at the grand end of their institution, "the glory of God, and the best interest of mankind." It is true the body of the Synod has some times met with some irksome obstructions herein, but this has ever arose from the enemies of the best interest of the body. The Synod never transacts any business of moment as a Synod, (and as such, their character is to be scrutinized) but what they are willing to produce before all *Israel* and the *Sun*, and of which they keep an exact history, which, they well know, is to be finally revised by an almighty, omniscient, impartial, most righteous judge.

Whenever the Synod hath occasion to call an interlocator, and modestly request all but members to withdraw, it is not secretly to plot against the state, nor is it that they may devise measures to aggrandize their own party, at the expence of the liberties and privileges of their sister protestant churches in the Lord. But they do this barely from tenderness to the characters of some, whose morals their consciences oblige them to inspect, and whose general conduct lays them under suspicion of not aiming heartily, if at all, at the power of godliness.

Such as these, when detected, or if attempted to be detected, but by many subtleties escape, are chagrined, mortified and vexed at heart; and at length become so replete with virulence, that to prevent bursting they must use any artifice whatever, although mean and sordid, to spit out their venomous poison.

If this Lay-Elder letter-writer against the Synod, is a member at all, he must be a mortified member, but I cannot for my life think who could have attended last Synod as a member, and be so full of rancour against the interest of the venerable body; if he is a member, it is I am sure teeth outward! Let him call himself by what name he pleases, till he gives me his proper christian name and surname, I must call him *Judas Iscariot*; for, he, if a member, has acted indeed a Judas-like part, but if he is not a member of the Synod, in any capacity, I have another name for him, and that is *Joab* the son of *Zeruiah*, for he appears as if he was seeking the health of the body, and then strikes a blow under the fifth rib. The public is often forewarned receiving counterfeit bills, so the public is hereby forewarned against believing counterfeit members of our Synod: Believe him not, his design is evidently evil; to prevent the Synod's influence with their people, to prevent charity for pious uses: But this is his least design, he would fain stigmatize the Synod, and beget in the minds of those who are not acquainted with the Synod, an ill impression—And I am persuaded, no discreet judicious reader, of whatever denomination, will approve of such practice, but must treat it with abhorrence; for this is an open violation of the most sacred rights and privileges of all religious societies whatsoever; for every society hath its own arcana, which should be kept secret within itself, with the profoundest chastity, and be never divulged to the world.

I have not thought it worth while to enter the list with this gentleman, so as to dispute whether he reports matter of fact—for it is notorious that he is quite wrong in many respects; but only have proved his attempting to do what he has done, even on supposition all he says were true, is intolerably abusive and criminal in its own nature—And lest any should think this the defence of the Synod, or of any very important members consulting together, I think it my duty to take all the blame, or imperfection of it, on myself alone; and let the world know, that I will not do a thing I dare not avow, while I think it is my duty, on this occasion, to declare that I am a member of the Synod of New-York and Philadelphia.

JOHN CARMICHAEL.

Philad. July 4, 1768.

Mr. GODDARD,
Please to insert the following Song in your next
Chronicle; and you will oblige yours, &c. D.

A S O N G.
To the Tune of HEART OF OAK, &c.
C O M E, join Hand in Hand, brave AMERICANS all,
And rouse your bold Hearts at fair LIBERTY's Call;

No tyrannous AAs shall suppress your just Claim,
Or stain with Dishonour AMERICA's Name.
In FREEDOM we're BORN, and in FREEDOM we'll LIVE,
Our Purges are ready,
Steady, Friends, ready,
Not as SLAVES, but as FREEMEN our Money we'll give.

Our worthy Forefathers—let's give them a Cheer—
To Climates unknown did courageously steer;
Thro' Ocean to Deserts for Freedom they came,
And dying bequeath'd us their Freedom and Fame—

In FREEDOM we're BORN, &c.
Their generous Boloms all Dangers despis'd,
So highly, so wisely, their BIRTHRIGHTS they priz'd;
We'll keep what they gave, we will piously keep,
Nor frustrate their Toils on the Land and the Deep.

In FREEDOM we're born, &c.
The TREE their own Hands had to LIBERTY rear'd,
They liv'd to behold growing strong and rever'd;
With Transport then cry'd, "now our Wishes we gain,

For our Children shall gather the Fruits of our Pain."
In FREEDOM we're born, &c.
How sweet are the Labors that Freeman endure,
That they shall enjoy all the Profit, secure—
No more such sweet Labors AMERICANS know,
If Britons shall reap what Americans sow—

In FREEDOM we're BORN, &c.
Swarms of Placemen and Pensioners soon will appear,
Like Locusts deforming the Charms of the Year;
Suns vainly will rise, Showers vainly descend,
If we are to drudge for what others shall spend.

In FREEDOM we're born, &c.
Then join Hand in Hand brave AMERICANS all,
By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall;
IN SO RIGHT TEOUS A CAUSE let us hope to succeed,

For Heaven approves of each generous Deed.—
In FREEDOM we're BORN, &c.
All Ages shall speak with Amaze and Applause,
Of the Courage we'll shew IN SUPPORT OF OUR LAWS;

To DIE we can bear—but to SERVE we disdain—
For SHAME is to Freeman more dreadful than PAIN—
In FREEDOM we're BORN, &c.
This Bumper I crown for our SOVEREIGN's Health,
And this for BRITANNIA's Glory and Wealth;

That Wealth and that Glory immortal may be,
If she is but just—and if we are but free.—
In FREEDOM we're BORN, &c.
* The Ministry have already begun to give away
in PENSIONS, the Money they lately took out of
our Pockets, WITHOUT OUR CONSENT.

From the MASSACHUSETTS GAZETTE of
June 30.

Province of Georgia, 16th June, 1768.

S I R,

Y O U R respected favour of the 11th February came to my hand only a few days since. I am sorry it is not in my power to give you so full and satisfactory an answer thereto, as the importance of the subject requires: The members of the present Assembly of this province have but lately been elected, and though the writs were returnable, and the House required to meet the first of this month, yet our Governor thought proper, prior thereto, to prorogue the Assembly until November; for this reason, Sir, I can only, for the present, reply to your favour as a private person, or late Speaker, and inform you, that before the dissolution of the last Assembly, the House took under consideration the several late acts of Parliament for imposing taxes and duties on the American colonies, and being sensibly affected thereby, ordered their committee of correspondence to instruct our provincial agent, (Mr. Benjamin Franklin) to join earnestly with the other colonies agents in soliciting a repeal of those acts, and in remonstrating against any acts of the like nature for the future: This instruction hath been transmitted to

Mr. Franklin, and I have no doubt but he will punctually observe it. When the Assembly meet I will lay your favour before the House; and I am assured such measures will be pursued in consequence thereof as will manifest their regard for constitutional liberty, and their respect for the House of Representatives of the province of Massachusetts-Bay, whose wise and spirited conduct is so justly admired. I am, Sir, with the utmost respects, your most obedient Servant,

ALEXANDER WILLY.

To the Honourable the Speaker
of the House of Representatives
in the Province of the
Massachusetts-Bay.

Province of Massachusetts-Bay, June 30.
On Tuesday the 21st inst. his Excellency the GOVERNOR sent the following Message to the Honourable House of REPRESENTATIVES, vizt.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,
I HAVE his Majesty's orders to make a requisition to you, which I communicate to you in the very words in which I have received it.—I must desire you to take it into immediate consideration, and I assure you that your resolutions thereon will have most important consequences to the province—I am myself merely ministerial in this business, having received his Majesty's instructions for all I have to do in it.—I heartily wish you may see how forceable the expediency of your giving this testimonial of your duty and submission is at this time; if you should think otherwise, I must nevertheless do my duty.

Council-Chamber,
June 23d, 1768.
F. BERNARD.
Extract of a letter from the Earl of HILLSBOROUGH, dated Whitehall, April 22d, 1768.

"IT gives great concern to his Majesty to find that the same moderation which appeared by your letter No. 3, to have been adopted at the beginning of the session in a full Assembly, had not continued, and instead of that spirit of prudence and respect to the constitution, which seemed at that time to influence the conduct of a large majority of the members, a thin House, at the close of the session, should have presumed to revert to and resolve upon a measure of so inflammatory a nature as that of writing to the other colonies on a subject of their intended representation against some late Acts of Parliament.—His Majesty considers this step as evidently tending to create unwarrantable combinations, to excite an unjustifiable opposition to the constitutional authority of Parliament, and to revive those unhappy divisions and distractions which have operated so prejudicially to Great-Britain and the Colonies—After what passed in the former part of the sessions, and after the declared sense of so large a majority when the House was full—His Majesty cannot but consider this as a very unfair proceeding, and the resolutions taken thereupon to be contrary to the real sense of the Assembly, and procured by surprise; and therefore it is the King's pleasure, that so soon as the General Court is again assembled at the time prescribed by the charter, you should require of the House of Representatives in his Majesty's Name, to rescind the resolution that gave birth to the circular letter from the speaker, and to declare their disapprobation of and dissent to that rash and hasty proceeding.

"His Majesty has the fullest reliance on the affections of his good subjects in the Massachusetts-Bay, and has observed with satisfaction that spirit of decency and love of order which has discovered itself in the conduct of the most considerable of its inhabitants, and therefore his Majesty has the better ground to hope that the attempt made by a desperate faction to disturb the public tranquility, will be discontinued, and that the execution of the measure recommended to you will not meet with any difficulty."

necessarily implies, that in the opinion of the suitors, at least, they have done wrong? But though he would fain this absurd opinion upon our Committee, yet it is what our Parliament do not pretend to; for as often as they repeal their own acts, of which we have several instances, they plainly confess that they have done wrong.

"But as the gentleman declares himself a plain, I wish I could add *modest* speaker, he tells us, "that in such a cause, to prevaricate or fear, is worse than falsehood or cowardice."

"But pray what cause does he mean? Where was this illand engaged or associated with his countrymen in their opposition? We were not. With what truth then can he reproach us with betraying a cause we were never engaged in? We were indeed engaged by our interest to get rid of the stamp-act, by the best means we could; but we did not think fit by *rage, fool-hardy, and*, as we thought, unwarrantable attempt to deliver us from one evil, to expose ourselves to a greater.

"We therefore submitted to the act, saving to ourselves the common right of remembrance. In consequence of which, our Committee sent their agent such instructions as they thought proper: But to their great misfortune, they have incurred this gentleman's high displeasure, by pointing out the danger of reproaching those from whom alone they were to expect redress, and wishing their agent to suit his language to their conduct.

"But who, if not a fool or a madman, would, by intemperance of language ill suited to his conduct, provoke the resentment of those from whom alone he expected redress, who have it in their power to crush him in a moment, and from whose vengeance, when provoked, he has no *shelter, protection, or asylum* to fly to? In short, our Committee contented themselves with acting in their own affairs, without embroiling or entangling themselves in the affairs or conduct of their neighbours; and might therefore reasonably have expected a return in kind. They might well have expected to have been left to the management of their own affairs, in their own way, without controul or reproach from an insidious American Diabler.

"The author of the Address charges the Committee with inconsistency and prevarication, in their principles and reasoning, because they acknowledge the authority of the supreme power of the state over the colonies. And yet in this acknowledgment of the supreme power of the parliament over all the subjects of the realm, what have the Committee done, more than is warranted by the authority of some of the greatest names of antiquity, both on the bench, and in the senate?

"The power and jurisdiction of parliaments, says Sir Edward Coke, is so transcendent and absolute, "that it cannot be confined, either for causes or persons, within any bounds: And of this High Court he adds, it may be truly said, *si antiquitatem spectes est vetustissima; si dignitatem, est honoratissima; si jurisdictionem, est capacissima.*" From history, and the records of the English government, we learn that Parliaments can regulate and new model the succession of the Crown; can alter the established religion of the land, and can change and create afresh even the constitution of the Kingdom, and of Parliaments themselves. And it was an apothegm of the great Lord Treasurer Burleigh (says the ingenious author to whose researches I am obliged for these observations on the power of Parliaments) that "England could never be ruined but by Parliaments." And this opinion is confirmed by an observation which the same author gives us from Sir Matthew Hale, that "the Parliament being the highest and greatest court, over which none other can have any jurisdiction in the kingdom, if by any means a misgovernment should fall upon it, the subjects of this kingdom are left without all manner of remedy." Such are the opinions of those two great lawyers, Coke and Hale, and such the sentiments of that equally great statesman Burleigh, on this disputed point betwixt the author of the Address, and our Committee of Correspondence; but if these authorities are of too old a date to please you, because they are of an older date than the colonies themselves, I will here give you one of a much later standing, and such a one as I think may be received for unexceptionable; not for his character either as a statesman or lawyer, but as the friend of liberty and mankind: Mr. Addison is

the author, and these his words, "Every one knows, who has considered the nature of government, that there must be, in each particular form of it, an absolute unlimited power." Yet, that my argument in vindication of the Committee, for protesting to yield obedience to the authority of Parliament, even whilst they felt and owned themselves oppressed by it, may have its full weight with you, I have yet one more name behind, that gives exactly the same sanction to this general doctrine, but expressed in much fuller terms; and is a name, which, I am sure, you do at this time esteem beyond all ancient and modern names whatever, a NORTH-AMERICAN; and the book too, from whence I shall extract the passage for my purpose, written, as you will also think, on one of the most interesting of all subjects, *the rights of the British colonies*: These being, as the title page has it, *asserted and proved by James Otis, Esq;*—a name, which, if I am not misinformed by some of my acquaintance here, who know his character, must do honour to any book, and I will risk my judgment as a critic in declaring, I think the book is such as might do honour in its turn to any name. It was printed (as I must observe, for the information of such of my countrymen as have not seen the piece itself) at Boston, in New-England, and was afterwards re-printed in London, and seems to have been written before the stamp-act had passed, but whilst it was expected. It was written, indeed, in those calm moments, on the continent, whilst the laws were heard, or rather before they became silenced by a louder din, yet written whilst under the most lively sense of that oppression, which the worthy writer did at that time see was hanging over the colonies, and ready to burst upon them; and which, in the honest consciousness of his breast, drew from him this affecting caveat—"Should any thing have escaped me, or hereafter fall from my pen, that has the least aspect but that of obedience, duty and loyalty to the King and Parliament, and the highest respect for the Ministry, the candid will impute it to the agony of my heart, rather than to the pravity of my will." For he had been particularly warm, amongst other subjects, in asserting the exclusive right of the colonies to tax themselves, demanding, "if there could be any liberty where property was taken away without consent? Or, if it could, with any colour of truth, justice, or equity, be affirmed, that the northern colonies were represented in Parliament?"—Yet, notwithstanding all this, hear how perfectly the author agreed in sentiment with our committee, on the point of yielding a cheerful and ready obedience to the laws: "of our Mother Country, particularly to the power of that august body, the Parliament of Great-Britain, the supreme legislature of the kingdom and its dominions;" these being the very words he uses in declaring his opinion on this interesting question in one part of his book: But that to which I shall now refer myself for the more particular justification of the Committee, lies in a succeeding page, and is to the following effect: "It is a maxim that the King can do no wrong; and every good subject is bound to believe his King is not inclined to do any. We are blessed with a Prince, who has given abundant demonstrations, that in all his actions, he studies the good of his people, and the true glory of his crown; which are inseparable. It would therefore be the highest degree of impudence and disloyalty, to imagine that the King, at the head of his Parliament, could have any but the most pure and perfect intentions of justice, goodness, and truth, that human nature is capable of. All this I say and believe of the King and Parliament, in all their acts; even in that which so nearly affects the interest of the colonists; and that a most perfect and ready obedience is to be yielded to it, whilst it remains in force."

"The author then goes on to pay a compliment to the Chancellor of the Exchequer for his good intentions, which, however, he soon spoils, by a throwed hint of his great want of judgment, he comes at last to the Parliament, which, as infallibility belongs not to mortals, he supposes may have been misinformed and deceived; and then closes with this extraordinary paragraph:

"The power of Parliament is uncontrollable, but by themselves, and we must obey. They only can repeal their own acts. There would be an end of all government, if one, or a number of subjects or sub-

ordinate provinces should take upon them so far to judge of the justice of an act of Parliament as to refuse obedience to it. If there was nothing else to restrain such a step, prudence ought to do it; for forcibly resisting the Parliament and the King's laws, is HIGH TREASON. Therefore let the Parliament lay what burthens they please on us, we must, it is our duty to submit and patiently bear them, till they will be pleased to relieve us. And it is to be presumed, the wisdom and justice of that august assembly, always will afford us relief, by repealing such acts as through mistake, or other human infirmities, have been suffered to pass, if they can be convinced that their proceedings are not constitutional, or not for the common good."

"Where now, I may demand, is that fervency in our people, which yielded obedience to the authority of Parliament, though they thought themselves oppressed and injured by this act?—Where the means of that policy in the Committee, who, the better to engage the Parliament to ease us of the oppression, drew a merit from the obedience of our people to their supreme and undisputed power?—Where the want of spirit in the Committee, in observing that as their appeal was to be made to the very power by which they were oppressed, their language should be suited to that circumstance, and its style to soften rather than provoke? Where the inconsistency of drawing the strongest picture of their distresses, under an inconsiderate and ill-advised act of the great legislature, and yet throwing themselves on the wisdom and justice of that assembly (which the author of the Address himself allows to be the wisest and justest assembly upon earth) for their relief?

"And yet, by an unnatural and cruel force on the words of the Committee's letter, our author has contrived to draw a lenie from them of the basest import, and which nothing but the most vindictive spirit surely could instil. For how else, from any thing which that letter offers to the fair eye of candour, could it be discovered, that the Committee had reduced themselves to the dilemma of making a choice between two of the meanest characters,—of those who would be slaves from inclination, though they pretend to love liberty,—and of those who are dutiful from fear, though they pretend to love submission."—Whereas the only dilemma into which the Committee do really appear to be unfortunately brought, is betwixt two of the most virtuous characters,—of those who are unwilling to part with any of their civil rights, though they will not easily be prevailed upon to throw off their allegiance,—and of those who can shew themselves to be dutiful on principle, though they will not yield, without a proper remonstrance, to oppression. On such a plan, on such an honest plan alone, is the letter of the Committee faithfully constructed, and if they were mistaken in the draught, they have erred under a rule laid down by one of the greatest writers of our nation on the subject of politics and patriotism; that to keep the spirit of liberty alive, "we should protest against what we cannot hinder, and claim, on every occasion, what we cannot by our own strength recover." Yet, for this letter, which was intended solely for this country's service, and without the least design of prejudice to our author's, who has upbraided the Gentlemen who wrote it in the most opprobrious terms. They are charged by him with a prevarication and fear, worse, if possible, than falsehood and cowardice; they are painted as slaves prostrate in the dirt, through their extreme baseness, having cowardly hatred and malice lurking within their bosoms; whispering and awaiting for revenge, the voices of little cruel minds.—And yet, would one believe it possible, my countrymen! These are the transports of a North-American breast, boistered for being so exactly like the BREATHINGS of a noble British spirit!—Nay more, these are the liberal effusions of a pen, which declared in its first outset how infamous it was to disgrace a good cause by illiberal language.

N. B. The remainder will be in our next.

* * * The Piece signed a MILLER, proposing a few Questions, &c. to the Author of the Address to the Public, read at the State-House, and published in our last, will be in our next.