

Rufinus. GOOD morning Eneas, you seem to be packing up, & by your countenance vastly pleased.

Eneas. You know Rufinus I am a Pre-definarian: from lately reading ancient history, both sacred and profane, I am confirmed the Lord Omnipotent reigneth, and that we therefore, ought always to rejoice. When the city of Tyre had risen to great opulence, she became insolent and abused her neighbours, so as to provoke Omnipotence to call forth the king of Babylon to chastise and finally subdue the Tyrians with his army, which besieged Tyre thirteen years before she could be brought to submission. The Almighty knew long before, that the Tyrians, when close besieged, would send their richest furniture and indeed all their wealth to Carthage, and that the Babilonians (whose shoulders should be pealed, and their heads become bald from the duration of the siege and the concomitant fatigue) would find no plunder in the city to compensate their extra services, although they had their monthly pay regularly. He accordingly did (as he had foretold) give them the treasures of Egypt as a reward for their services.—Soon after the conquest of Tyre, there happened an insurrection in Egypt, which afforded Nebuchadnezzar an opportunity to seize on the treasures of that opulent country, to compensate for the services his army did him in the siege of Tyre. The same omnipotent hand rules and will provide for us Americans; if we pursue the paths pointed out by his providence, and will remove us in a very great degree from the contempt, neglect and poverty we, as a people, are falling into.

Rufinus. I wish to know by what means.

Eneas. I think the treasures of Mexico are reserved for us if we improve the present opportunity.

Rufinus. You are more enthusiastic than King Tom, who promised his deluded followers all the riches of the common-wealth for their services; but after all his promises he was obliged to quit the fertile fields of the United States, without either a shilling of Money for his followers, or even himself to purchase the second pair of snow-shoes.

Eneas. The country on the beautiful river Ohio is allowed by all travellers to be not only the most fertile but the most glorious part of the world. It is watered with beautiful hills and vallies, besides meadows or intervals on every small stream that empties into the Ohio. The timber of that country is most excellent for ship building or any other use whatever; the winter not half so tedious in that as in this climate, and the communication by water down the Ohio into the Mississippi, from thence into the Bay of Mexico, where are the Spanish settlements which abound with Gold and silver mines but not with the necessities of life. Now I say the goodly settlements in the fertile country first described, which produces every necessary, and some of the luxuries of life, if he is industrious and raises more than for the support of his family, may, if gold be his object, send his produce to the best market in the world, accomplish his desires with less expence of labour than those who dig and refine the several metals.

Rufinus. If the country is so good why has it not been settled before?

Eneas. You might with the same propriety ask, why the world was not all settled the eighth day. I believe it was reserved for a little rest for the old grey-headed servants of the public; that they might there retire in social bands and build themselves towns on some of those inviting streams, where mutual sympathy shall warm and animate each breast; there they may close the evening of life unmolested, and with this happy consolation that their posterity, with the common blessings of providence and industry, will be free from, and unexposed to insult or beggary. This country produces mulberry trees for the cultivation of silk; cotton may also be raised there in great plenty. Hemp and tobacco, with every kind of vegetables flourish in that country better than ever I saw elsewhere.

Rufinus. There are so many Indians who inhabit that country, that I should be cautious of settling there on that account, if I had no other reason.

Eneas. Why so timorous? you have nothing to fear from them, as I cannot learn that there are an hundred Indians settled within 150 miles of the Ohio for 300 miles below Fort Pitt. The Virginians began and carried on a settlement at Kentucky, 600 miles down the river in the heat of the last war, against the combined force of Indians who were assisted by Great Britain, and if there was now an open war with the savages, our danger would bear a proportion to that of the first settlement at Kentucky, as one is to ten, and he who will not run some riique to obtain a capital settlement does not deserve one.

Rufinus. But we shall starve to death.

Eneas. If you are idle you deserve it; but be assured you may go into the woods in the spring, girdle your timber and raise a good crop of Indian corn, and the next year a good crop of wheat or Rye. As to provision for the first season, you may purchase any quantity for money or labour, viz. Flour at 2 dollars per Cw. beef at 3 dollars and other provision in proportion, except salt, which will be from 3 to 2 dollars per bushel.

Rufinus. But it will cost an estate to move a family there.

Eneas. Let all divest themselves of the least valuable part of their furniture, and that which is of the most burthen, and reduce it for instance to 250lb. to each individual: let him procure a team or teams sufficient to transport his family and effects, and I will be answerable to bear all the expence for people and teams from Connecticut River to Fort-Pitt, which is 535 miles (where they can take water carriage) for 12 dollars for each person, be they more or less, if they form into parties of 20 families each and move on together, provided also they carry tents to cover their families.

Rufinus. Will it not injure the State to encourage emigrations until the public debt is paid.

Eneas. By no means; if each state should tend their proportion of emigrants, which undoubtedly they will, each individual that settles in that country will probably pay 300 dollars in public securities for so many acres of land, this goes immediately into the treasury which is double the sum he ever would be called upon to pay, was he to remain here until the whole debt was discharged, besides the rapid population of this country is such, that vast emigration must take place in a short time, in order that the remaining part might acquire the necessities of life.

Rufinus. Your long proposed journey will be dreary, fatiguing and insipid.

Eneas. Not unless we are insipid ourselves. I would propose moving only 20 miles per day, then encamp being furnished with vocal and instrumental music, our nymphs and swains shall divert themselves and us with innocent and sentimental songs.

Rufinus. Then you really expect to go.

Eneas. As much as I expect to live, Adieu.

A S O N G.

Composed on the Banks of the Ohio, by Mr. T.

FROM domestic employment, and noise of the town; United in friendship, let's social set down; In mirth and good humour, let's fill up life's blank; And cheerfully sing on Ohio's fair bank.

By the force of attraction we're led through the vale; Ascend the high mountain and taste the sweet gale; When Phebus retires we'll all cease to survey; And forget in repose all the toils of the day.

What, though for your absence your partner's thought mourn; Though maidens should sigh for their lover's return; We'll pursue the grand object, this wild to fish due, Then retire to their arms and our joys we'll renew.

O'er this wild, though uncultured shall gardens appear; The harvest shall bend with the fruits of the year; While orchards like forests, their trembling towers rear; The lilly and rose shall perfume all the air.

The muses delighted shall wantonly sing; Here commerce shall flourish, here science resort; The Goddesses of virtue, the fair to protect, On Ohio's fair bank shall her temple erect.

In rural diversions the evening to pass, Each swain with his partner, shall sport on the grass; In sweetenets not rivaled by England or France On the banks of Ohio, we'll join in the dance.

Thus blest, though in prospect, whilst here we are men; Let each fill his glass and his sorrow forget; To follow his leader, while each does prepare; On the banks of Ohio, lets drink to the fair.

What though our departure is now drawing near; Whilst led by our General we're nothing to fear; And now in succession according to rank; We'll follow our chief on Ohio's fair bank.

THE subscriber hereby informs those whom it may concern, that he is appointed by the Commodity-General, to receive such specific articles as may be delivered at Deerfield, in discharge of specie Taxes, assessed previous to the year 1784, pursuant to an act of the General Court, passed Nov. 8th, 1786.

JOHN WILLIAMS. Deerfield, March 3, 1787.

TAKEN by the rebels, from Elias Lyman's tavern Northampton, on the 26th of January last, two MAREs, one a black, the other near feet white, a Star in the forehead, and trot all; the other a sorrel, with a star in the forehead, trots and paces.—Whoever will give information of, or return said Mares to the subscriber, shall be generously rewarded, by LEMUEL POMEROY.

Southampton, March 9, 1787.

WE the subscribers being appointed Commissioners by the Hon. Judge of Probate for the county of Hampshire, to receive and examine the claims of the creditors to the estate of Capt. Benjamin Clark, late of Colrain, deceased, represented insolvent, and six months being allowed to the creditors to said estate, from the seventeenth day of January last, to being in support their claims; hereby give notice, that we shall attend said business at the house of the deceased, in Colrain, on the first Wednesday of April and June, and the second Wednesday of July next, from nine to five o'clock on each of said days.

JAMES STEVENS, JOSEPH BACOCK, PLEAS BACOCK.

Colrain, Feb. 21, 1787.

HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1787.

NORTHAMPTON: PRINTED BY WILLIAM BUTLER, A FEW RODS EAST OF THE COURT-HOUSE.

For the HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE. A friendly ADDRESS to the PEOPLE who have taken part in the late opposition to Government, especially those in the county of Hampshire.

My Countrymen, YOUR situation is much altered within these few weeks: perhaps your sentiments are altered as much. Government has displayed its superiority, and you are convinced that the people in general will support it. You can have no prospect, and I hope you have no desire of protruding it by numbers, or of contending it by arms. It remains then, that you endeavour to make yourselves and your fellow-citizens happy by a peaceable submission to it, and behaviour under it: it is too natural for people, disappointed as you have been, to retain for a while, some resentment against those who have opposed them, and against the Government which has directed the public movement. But it is time to suppress every resentment, and to call reason and virtue into exercise. It is not the indulgence of passion; it is not recrimination or revenge, that will make you or your country happy. Think calmly, reason justly and act wisely. Entertain no groundless jealousies of, or resentment against government, or any of its supporters—examine before you judge—understand before you condemn.

Many of you seem to suppose that the government has been badly and severely in sending an armed force against you; but let us consider the matter with candour and impartiality. Insurrections against the rights of justice began soon after the declaration of independence; about ten years ago, and they have often been renewed.

A committee from the General Court, once was sent to expostulate with and lay down conditions before the discontented in this county. The tranquillity which seemed to ensue, was soon interrupted, within these four or five years past, there have been no less than six insurrections in order in this county only, besides a number in other counties. Such has been the tenacity of government, that not a single person concerned in these violences has suffered death by the hand of justice: the severest punishment has been only a fine or short imprisonment. The General Court in the present instance, reluctant to forsake measures, granted a full indemnity, without any exception, to as many as would accept of it, requiring no other condition than an oath of fidelity to the state. So little attention was paid to this act of clemency, that insurrections were immediately renewed, and repeated as often as an object could be found. In the mean time, not a single petition was sent to the legislature, nor a single grievance stated by the people in arms. One or two petitions were presented to be sent to the Governor by some particular persons; but these were disavowed by many, and even by some of the leaders, and an answer was not waited for. The Government could not know the real ground of your complaints, nor what would give you general satisfaction. It is however on such information as could be collected, revised the laws, made several alterations, with a view to gratify your wishes and relieve your distresses, and gave a statement of public affairs in a long address: but still your operations were continued. And now what had Government to do? Give up the powers committed to them, or assert and maintain them? There could be no medium. Some of you proposed a suspension of the administration of justice till a new election, when you hoped all grievances might be redressed. But if you would have stated your grievances, why might they not have been as well redressed before? If you should still refuse to state them; how could you expect they would be redressed at all? Let me ask you further, what right had the Legislature to suspend the administration of justice? Would not this be, in effect, a violation of the constitution, and a suspension of all government? Would not such an act have been a surrender of their powers? Would it not have been a violation of their sacred trust and solemn oath? might you or any other have made the same demand on the next General Court, and have rejected it then by pleading a precedent? Before they could surrender their powers, they were bound

to call on the body of the people, and know whether they would support and defend their own government. They are appointed by the people as guardians of the constitution, and if they had abandoned it without asking their constituents, who would not have charged them with treason against the state? Many of you have said, and I believe have said truly, that you for yourselves had no intention to destroy the government. But could you promise this for others? Or could the Legislature know that your intention was so innocent? They could judge of your general design only by your general conduct, which really had not the most harmless aspect. The Government, however, harrassed on the candid presumption, that the most of you were misled by misapprehension, rather than by a dishonest heart, and have granted a conditional indemnity to all who acted only as private and non-commissioned officers; and have left room for many others to hope and apply for mercy. But it is said by many of you, "this indemnity is accompanied with such humiliating restrictions and disqualifications, that you had rather quit the state than submit to them." Perhaps you judge too hastily. Whether the act is formed in the wisest manner, experience will best determine: That it is *truly* an unjust, and *candour* will not pretend.

By the laws of the land, which are your own laws, you were exposed to a positive, perhaps a capital punishment. Against this punishment the Court indemnify you on certain conditions. You still have your option, whether to comply with the conditions or take a trial at law. The act puts you not in a worse condition than before. It lies with you to make your choice. Let us consider the conditions.—One is, that you take an oath of fidelity to the state. This is no more than what the constitution of some neighbouring states requires of every citizen, before he can enjoy the privileges of a free-man: no more than our own and every other constitution requires of all who are intrusted with any important office. Another condition is, that you resign up your arms. What is this more than a token of surrender? a token required of the party vanquished, even in national wars? You are not properly disarmed, you may still possess arms, may purchase others if you please, and after a limited time receive your own. The other condition is, that you submit to a temporary suspension of the privilege of choosing others and being chosen yourselves to certain offices. Can you justly complain of this? Would it be proper that they, who have for several months, been acting in opposition to government should now, before their passions subside, be intrusted with the administration of it? or with the choice of persons to administer it? Suppose you had prevailed, would you have been the first to have committed your affairs into the hands of those you had conquered? Would you not have confined the powers of government within yourselves, till you had formed and finished your system? Did we not conduct in this manner in the late revolution?—It may be offered further—this suspension is to continue only for three years; and provision is made, that even this term may be shortened. The act is in the hands of the Legislature, and may, as any session, be altered or annulled, if there should be any sufficient cause. You may still choose of officers, in all matters as usual, except the choice of officers. You are not wholly excluded from your influence in government, you may now, as well as before, petition the legislature and join in instructions to your representatives. Many of the members of the community, for no fault, only for want of sufficient property, are disqualified from voting by the constitution, as much as you are by the state act. Your situation is by no means peculiar; and that of many of you, especially the younger part, is not materially different from what it ever has been. The disqualification complained of, will, in many instances, operate as a privilege, for you are not liable to be chosen to those offices, which are esteemed a burthen. If the disqualifying act shall be found inconvenient or unnecessary, it will probably be repealed at an earlier period than that prefixed for its expiration.

Numbers of you, irritated by the law, are meditating a removal to other states: But let not your resolutions be too hasty.—You know not what measures other states may take; perhaps you will find yourselves there under similar restrictions. The confederation binds the states to make such a cause as this a common cause. Many of you perhaps find it for your interest to remove. You have right to judge for yourselves: but wherever you go, carry with you a peaceable disposition, and a settled determination to seek the peace of those among whom you dwell. If you indulge a restless discontented spirit, you can't be happy any where, nor any others happy where you are. If you possess a quiet and contented mind, your situation may be tolerable here, public affairs have been working themselves into a more favourable train: Your ill-judged measures have obstructed their progress. Truth, virtue, industry and peace, will remedy the evils that have arisen and remove the burthens that are complained of. The General Court, you acknowledge, has made some alterations favourable to your wishes; they have, by a late law, made provision that all the arrears of taxes granted before the year 1784, and which were payable in silver or gold only, may now be paid in various articles of the produce of the country, at such prices as some will complain of, and have appointed proper persons and places for the reception of the same. They expect soon to bring into the treasury this state's share of the continental securities. They are diversing into a new channel part of the revenue, and disposing of unappropriated lands. They have prolonged the time for the payment of the last tax, that there may be a greater opportunity to procure certificates for that purpose; and they doubtless will by every means in their power, facilitate your purchase of those securities which are, and shall be from time to time receivable on the taxes. A considerable part of the public debt, they inform us, is already discharged. Industry, economy, peace and honesty, will in a few years, give a more smiling aspect to our affairs.—You complain that you have been treated with severity in the public papers. There may, without question, have been instances of this kind; but perhaps as few as have been known in a similar controversy. However, we will not impute to Government the indiscretions of a few particular persons. While you condemn severity in others, you will disdain to return it. There have not been wanting impudent people among you. As opprobrious language has been directed against Government as against you. As violent menaces have been offered on your part as on the other. It is no small matter to speak evil of dignities: it is time that every thing insolent and irritating cease on both sides. Let us all conduct as becomes good citizens, as treat one another as becomes good neighbours.—Union is the strength of society: peace is the felicity of human life.

A delicacy of language in political contests, tends to the refinement of national manners, as well as to the reconciliation of contending parties. Let there be no mutual upbraidings, no personal revenge, no malicious insinuations, nor ill-natured professions. The Government wish not to multiply punishments or disqualifications, or to increase the number of offenders. Complaints, originating from private animosities, usually recall on the person who promotes them. The most friendly office you can do to those who are not included in the general indemnity, is to behave peaceably in society and pay due obedience to government. If tranquillity and good order soon take place, punishment will appear to be less necessary, and the instances of it will be fewer and less severe. Let old matters be soon forgotten, and past contentions and errors be obliterated by your future peace and virtue. May this state rise from its distress to its former dignity, and become the glory of the union, and may this county become the glory of the state.

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TO THE ELECTORS OF MASSACHUSETTS. THE time has nearly arrived, when, by the constitution, we are called upon, to give our suffrages for the first officers in government—a period more solemn and alarming than the present; I presume is not within the memory of