THE

Massachusetts Spy

Or, Thomas's Boston Journal.

'Do thou Great LIBERTY inspire our Souls—And make our Lives in thy Poſſeſſion happy—Or, our Deaths glorious in thy juſt Defence.'

VOL. IV.) THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1774. (NUMB. 179.

THE great demand for this paper, has often occaſioned many good cuſtomers being diſappointed, for which the publiſher is very ſorry: He will, in future, endeavour to prevent any thing of the like kind happening, ſo long as he may have the honour of being an hand-ſervant to the public.

The gloomy proſpect of public affairs, at preſent, in this devoted capital, has occaſioned ſome preſſing Demands upon him, which with great reluctance he informs his cuſtomers, he can by no means anſwer without their kind aſſiſtance: He is loath to trouble them with a 'dunning' advertiſement, but his affairs make it neceſſary: His cuſtomers in the country towns in this province, and thoſe in the other colonies, he hopes will take proper notice of it, and conſider there is no poſſibility, (eſpecially for a young beginner) in carrying on buſineſs without regular payments.

A work of this kind, it is well known is attended with great expence, and he begs leave to mention, that the MASSACHUSETTS SPY is a third larger than any News-Paper publiſhed in this province, and contains as much News, as many Political Eſſays, as any in America; and is the cheapeſt on the globe.

I. THOMAS.

Boſton, June 9, 1774.

In the Houſe of Repreſentatives, June 14, 1774.

WHEREAS there will become due in this month, ſundry notes given by the province-treaſurer, and ſufficient proviſion having been made for the paying off the ſame, and if the poſſeſſors of ſuch notes ſhould not bring them in to the treaſurer to be paid, the province will ſuffer damage by ſuch neglect:

Therefore Reſolved, That the poſſeſſors of ſuch notes, who ſhall not bring them to the province-treaſurer, to be paid by the laſt day of *July* next, ſhall not receive any intereſt on the ſame, after that time, and the province treaſurer, is hereby directed forthwith to cauſe this order to be publiſhed in all the Boſton News-papers, three weeks ſucceſſively, that every one concerned may be notified hereof.

Sent up for concurrence. T. CUSHING, *Speaker*

In council, June 15th, Read and concurred.

JOHN COTTON, D. *Sec'ry.*

Conſented to, THO's. GAGE.

A true copy, attſt. JOHN COTTON, D. *Sec'ry.*

*** The treaſurer of the province hereby gives public notice to the delinquent conſtables and collectors of the province taxes, that they pay the ſame into the treaſury by the 31ſt of *July* next.

Treaſury-Office, June 18, 1774.

From the PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

LETTER IV.

To the Inhabitants of the Britiſh Colonies in AMERICA.

Brethren,

THE intelligence received, ſince the preceding letter was written, ſeems to render needleſs every attempt to prove from *former tranſactions*,—any ſiniſter intention, if health had permitted—that a regular plan has been inveterably purſued to enſlave theſe colonies, and that the act of

Riots and weak publications, by a ſmall number of individuals, are ſufficient reaſons with Parliament to ruin many thouſand inhabitants of a truly reſpectable town, to diſſolve charters, to aboliſh the benefits of the writ of *habeas corpus*, and extirpate American liberty—for the principle reaches all. But in *England* the preſs groans with publications, ſeditious, treaſonable and even blaſphemous. The diſcontented ſwarm over the kingdom, proclaiming their reſentments. Many enormous riots have diſturbed the public peace. The ſovereign has been inſulted in paſſing from his palace to the Parliament-houſe, on the buſineſs of the nation. Is it to be concluded from theſe facts, that the BODY OF THE PEOPLE is ſeditious and traiterous? can his Majeſty believe, that he is thought by his Engliſh ſubjects in *general* to be ſuch a prince, as ſome of them have repreſented him? will the two houſes of Parliament acknowledge what has been ſpoken and written and acted againſt them in *England*, expreſſes the ſentiments of the kingdom? or will they ſay, that the *people of England* have forfeited their liberty, becauſe *ſome of them* have run into licentiouſneſs? let a judgment be formed in *both caſes* by the *ſame* rule. Let them condemn *theſe* or acquit *us*.

Pretences and reaſons are totally different. The provocations, ſaid to be given by our ſiſter colony, are but the PRETENCES for the exorbitant ſeverity exerciſed againſt her. The REASONS are theſe—the policy, deſpicable and deteſtable as it is, of ſuppreſſing the freedom of *America* by a military force, to be ſupported by money taken out of *our* own pockets, and the ſuppoſed convenience of opportunity for attaining this end. Theſe REASONS are evident from the miniſter's ſpeech. The ſyſtem is formed with art, but the art is diſcoverable. Indeed, I do not believe it was expected, we ſhould have ſuch early and exact intelligence of the ſchemes agitated againſt us, as we have received. Any perſon, who examines the multitude of invectives publiſhed in pamphlets and news papers in *Great-Britain*, or the ſpeeches made in either houſe of Parliament, will find them directed againſt *the colonies in general*. The people in that kingdom have

adverſus vilidiſſimas gentis pro nobis vellent, quam quod in COMMUNES NONCONSULENT. Rarus ad propalandum *communæ periculum* conventus. Ita ſtant *ſinguli* pugnant *omnes* vincantur.‡

Why did the little *Swiſs* cantons, and ſeven ſmall provinces of the low countries, ſo ſucceſsfully oppoſe the tyrants, that not contended with an empire founded in harmonity and mutual advantages, *unneceſſarily* and arrogantly ſtrove to "LAY" the faithful and affectionate wretches "AT THEIR FEET?" Becauſe, they wiſely regarded the intereſt of each as the intereſt of *all*.

Our own experience furniſhes a mournful additional proof of an obſervation made by a great and good man, Lord preſident *Forbes*. "It is a certain truth," ſays he, "that all ſtates and kingdoms, in proportion as they grow great, wealthy and powerful, grow wanton, wicked and oppreſſive, and the hiſtory of all ages gives evidence of the fatal cataſtrophe of *all ſuch* ſtates and kingdoms, when the top of their iniquity is full." Another "truth" as "certain" is—that "ſuch ſtates and kingdoms" never have been, and never will be checked in the career of their "wantonneſs, wickedneſs and oppreſſion" by a people in *any* degree, dependent upon them, but by the prudent, vigorous and ſteady unanimity of that people. To employ more words to elucidate a point ſo manifeſt, would be the idle attempt of gilding gold.

Surely you cannot doubt at this time, my countrymen, but that the people of *Maſſachuſett's-Bay* are ſuffering in a cauſe common to us all; and therefore, that we ought immediately to conſider the moſt prudent meaſures for their relief and our own ſafety.

Our intereſt depending on the preſent controverſy is unſpeakably valuable. We have not the leaſt proſpect of human aſſiſtance. The paſſion of deſpotiſm raging like a plague, for about ſeven years paſt, has ſpread with ſimilar malignity through *Europe*. *Corſica*, *Poland*, and *Sweden*, have ſunk beneath it. The remaining ſpirit of freedom, that lingered and languiſhed in the parliaments of *France*, has lately expired, by the new modeling their parliaments. What kingdom or ſtate intereſted for the relief of their diſ-

http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2002712180/

Library of Congress www.loc.gov/teachers