

Your Expressions of Esteem and Regard for me, and your good Wishes for my Health and Happiness, are particularly pleasing to me. Nor can I sufficiently express my Gratitude to you, Gentlemen, for the very honourable, candid, and independent Manner in which you are pleased to bear Testimony to the Moderation and Impartiality of my Conduct in the Administration of the Government, and my conciliatory Endeavours for the maintaining of Concord and Harmony amongst the different Ranks of the Inhabitants of this Island. And I do, with you, exceedingly lament that my Efforts to restore Unanimity have not succeeded so universally and fully as myself, and every real Friend to the Happiness and Prosperity of this Island could wish.

I, however, have a singular Satisfaction in thus publicly and gratefully acknowledging the personal Respect and Civility shewn to me, and the liberal and honourable Support which I have experienced from the Members of the two Branches of the Legislature, and the great Body of the People of this Government.

I shall only add this further Assurance, Gentlemen, that in whatever Situation his Majesty may be graciously pleased to place me, or whatever Events in Life may befall me, that neither Time or Place can obliterate my grateful Remembrance of this Address from the Gentlemen of the Grand Inquest of the whole Island on the present Occasion, or abate my wishes for the perfect Harmony, uninterrupted Felicity, and permanent Prosperity of all his Majesty's dutiful and loyal Subjects in this Government.

EDM. FANNING.

Charlotte Town, 24th Feb 1792.

SUPREME COURT, FEBRUARY 23.

DONALD M'INTIRE, late a servant to James Douglas, Esq. Comptroller of his Majesty's Customs, was brought to the bar, and tried upon four several indictments for petty larceny, and convicted upon them all.

Previous to the detection of the prisoner in these most infamous and wicked practices, he had generally been considered and received as an honest man—but, in the course of the trial, it appeared in evidence against him, that he had long been accustomed to commit the most shameful thefts on the property of his master—that he had stolen sundry small articles from different persons, all of which had been found upon him. The only considerable sufferer, however, was the Comptroller, from whom he stole to a large amount—the indictment stated fifteen gallons of rum, ten gallons of molasses, ten yards of diaper cloth, 100 pounds of beef, and 10 lbs. of tallow. The other indictments were for articles of less value; which served to shew the depravity of the prisoner; and it seems, as if for the purpose of improving himself in the practice of this favourite art, that he never failed to lay hands on whatever happened to lie in his way, be the value ever so contemptible.

Part of the diaper, and some oznabrigs, were produced in Court, used as lining in the prisoner's clothes; as also two bottles of rum, a hat with the owner's name in it, and several other small articles, taken out of the prisoner's chest.

When the prisoner was asked to account how he came by the above articles, he replied, that he brought the diaper and oznabrigs from Scotland; the rum he bought from different persons, the impossibility of which was, however, immediately proved by an examination of some of them—the hat he said he bought of a negro man of the name of Davy; but failing in his attempt to prove this, he shifted to his old ground of prevarication, and said that he purchased it in the dusk of the evening of a black man that was unknown to him.

Samples of the diaper, oznabrigs, rum, and several other articles, were shewn in Court, and they were in colour, consistence, and make, so exactly corresponding to the articles stolen, and so corroborative of the evidence before given to the Court, that there could not possibly remain a doubt of the guilt of the prisoner in the breast of any one present.

After the prosecution was closed, the Chief Justice delivered a charge to the Jury, observing that he had no doubt but they would return an impartial verdict, agreeable to their conscience, and the spirit of justice.

The jury then retired, and after a short stay, returned with a verdict—Guilty.—Sentenced to receive corporal punishment.

The King against John Allen.

The prisoner was brought to the bar,

and charged with having stolen a bedtick and a japanned water pichery the property of the hon. Thomas Desbrisay—When the Evidence for the Crown had finished, the prisoner was called upon for his defence, which, it is but justice to say, was a very masterly one, but the reasons cannot be detailed in this paper. It afforded great diversion to the audience—A well connected and distinguished lawyer, the sure test of innocence, was told by the prisoner, with a humorous but excellent exhibition of the ability of the Court. The jury did not retire. The prisoner was acquitted and discharged immediately. It proved fortunate for the prisoner, that the very pichery for which he had been committed, and then stood indicted for, was found in the chest of Donald M'Intire, the prisoner who the day before had been convicted upon four different indictments, one of which was for this said pichery.

The King against John M'Donald.

Charged in the indictment with having stolen an axe, value ten pence, the property of Mr. John Boyer, of Stanhope. The evidences both for the Crown and the prisoner swore positively to the property; but the proof on the part of the prisoner was strengthened by the most convincing and irreproachable testimony, and he was honourably acquitted.

We side with the jury in their decision; and shall here remark, how possible it is for the breath of suspicion to taint the reputation of a good man; and how a combination of extraordinary circumstances, might arise to cast an indelible stain on the character of an honest person, and blacken even innocence itself.

FEBRUARY 25.

Yesterday, Donald M'Intire, agreeable to his sentence, was tied to the back of a Caricle, and whipt through the town, followed by a number of spectators. He was afterwards recommitted to the jail, from whence he will be taken every eight days to receive a similar infliction, until the sentence of the Court shall be fulfilled.

MARCH 9. This day Donald M'Intire was again whipped through the town pursuant to the sentence of the Court.

Was lately married, Mr. William Hunter, of Richmond Bay, upwards of 70, to Miss Katherine M'Eachran, of 20.

BIRTH. Mrs. Cinsabaugh, of Three River, of twins, daughters.

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