

Royal Gazette, and Miscellany of the Island of Saint John.

CHARLOTTE TOWN: PRINTED BY WILLIAM A. KING, PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

EDMUND FANNING, LL. D.

Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Island of Saint John, and the Territories thereunto adjacent, Chancellor of the same, &c. &c.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the Persons exercising the Supreme Authority in France having declared War against his Majesty, on the first of February last, and the King's Commands having been signified to me, instantly to cause the same to be made as public as possible in the Island under my Government,

I have therefore thought fit, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majesty's Council, to issue this Proclamation, in Order to make known the same, that his Majesty's Subjects, having this Notice, may take Care, on the one Hand, to prevent any Mischief which otherwise they might suffer from the French, and, on the other, may do their utmost, in their several Stations, to distress and annoy them, by making Captures of their Ships, and by destroying their Commerce; for which purpose his Majesty has been pleased to order LETTERS OF MARQUE, or COMMISSIONS OF PRIVATEERS, to be granted in the usual Manner.

And the Owners of all armed Ships may rest assured, that his Majesty will consider them as having a just Claim to the King's Share of all French Ships and Property, which they may make Prize of.

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal at Arms, at Charlotte Town, this seventh Day of May, one Thousand seven Hundred and Ninety-three, and in the thirty-third Year of his Majesty's Reign.

EDMUND FANNING.

By his Excellency's Command,
THO. DESBRESAY, Secretary,
(GOD SAVE THE KING)

To be Sold,

150 Acres of Land, in the Royalty of Charlotte Town, 20 of which are cleared— an unquestionable title will be given.

Also a number of Cows, Horses, Plows, Carts, and farming Utensils. For particulars, enquire of John Clark.

Charlotte Town, May 30, 1793.

From Minns's Weekly Chronicle.

AMIDST the Variety of contending Opinions which distract the World, while Theory is applauded—Practice condemned and a Spirit of Innovation extending itself—perhaps the following little Extract, taken from the Disquisitions of that learned and eminent Writer Soame Jenyns, Esquire, may not be deemed mal-a-propos.

ON GOVERNMENT AND CIVIL LIBERTY.

IF any one casts his eyes on the title of this essay short as it is, he will scarcely be persuaded to read any further; as he will rationally conclude, that, on a subject so hackneyed by the best and worst writers of all ages, from Aristotle to the news-paper politicians of the present times, nothing can be added, which can afford either instruction or entertainment: but so many absurd principles, concerning government and liberty, have been of late disseminated with unusual industry; principles as false as mischievous, as inconsistent with common sense as with all human society; that it seems necessary that they should not pass quite unnoticed, especially as they require nothing more, than to be fairly stated, to be refuted. The most considerable of them are the following; to each of which I shall say a few words.

- 1st. That all men are born equal.
- 2dly. That all men are born free.
- 3dly. That all government is derived from the people.
- 4thly. That all government is a compact between the governors and the governed.
- 5th. That no government ought to last any longer, than it continues to be of equal advantage to the two contracting parties, that is, to the governed, as to the governors.

First then; That all men are born equal; by which proposition, if it is only meant, that all men are equally born, that is, that one man is as much born as another, I shall not dispute its truth: but in every other sense it is entirely false; for we daily see, that some are born with beautiful and healthy bodies, and some with frames distorted, and filled with the most deplorable diseases; some with minds fraught with the seeds of wisdom and genius, others with those of idiotism and madness; some, by the laws and constitutions of their countries, are born to the inheritance of affluent fortunes and distinguished honours, others to a life of poverty, labour, and obscurity. How these

can be said to be born equal, I cannot comprehend. If by this proposition is to be understood, that, at the time of their birth all men are possessed of an equal share of power, learning and virtue; when they are equally incapable of possessing any; this would be no less ridiculous, than to assert, that all men are born with teeth of the same length, when none of them are born with any teeth at all. But supposing they were all born equal; would this prove what is always intended to be proved by it, that they ought always to continue so? Or can any argument be drawn from thence against their future inequality, and subordination? must no man presume to be six feet high, because perhaps he was born of the same size as another, who is now but four? must no man assume power over another, because they were born equal, that is, because at their birth they were incapable of exercising any power whatever? Thus, we see, this mighty argument, drawn from the supposed natural equality of mankind, by which all powers and principalities are threatened to be overthrown, is entirely false, and if true, is nothing to the purpose for which it has been so often and so pompously introduced.

Secondly; That all men are born free. This is so far from being true, that the first infringement of this liberty is being born at all; which is imposed upon them, without their consent, given either by themselves or their representatives; and it may easily be shewn, that man, by the constitution of his nature, never subsists a free and independent being, from the first to the last moment of his residence on this terrestrial globe: where during the first nine months of his existence, he is confined in a dark and sultry prison, debarred from light and air; till at length, by an Habeas Corpus brought by the hand of some kind deliverer, he is set at liberty: but what kind of liberty does he then enjoy? he is bound hand and foot, and fed upon bread and water, for as long a period; no sooner is he unbound, than he makes so bad a use of his liberty, that it becomes necessary that he should be placed in a state of the severest discipline, first under a nurse, and then under a school master, both equal tyrants in their several departments; by whom he is again cowed without law, condemned without a jury, and whipped without mercy. In this state of slavery he continues many years; and, at the expiration of it, he is obliged to commence an involuntary subject of some civil government; to whose authority he must submit, however ingeniously he may dispute her right, or be justly hanged for disobedience.