

## M A R Y L A N D G A Z E T T E.

T H U R S D A Y, J U L Y 4, 1776.

L I S B O N, Feb. 22.

**T**HE viceroy of Brasil and the commandants of our places in America, have received orders to complete all the regiments, and to keep the men constantly employed in the exercise of arms. A large quantity of stores and ammunition has likewise been sent, within these few days, from Rio Janeiro to the Bay of All Saints; a precaution which is judged the more necessary at this time, as the war which subsists at present between England and her American colonies excites the attention of all the powers which have possessions on that continent. Indeed, should the colonies once triumph, they would easily be able to contract alliances that might have bad consequences.

L O N D O N, March 21.

In the debate which arose in the committee of supply last Monday night, on the estimate of the army extraordinary, the death of the gallant gen. Montgomery was lamented in strains of the most pathetic eloquence that ever were heard in the house of commons. Three of the principal orators, Mr. Burke, Mr. Fox, and col. Barre, distinguished themselves on the occasion, and vied with each other in the panegyric of that hero. General Burgoyne, though he expressed a strong zeal against the American cause, in a very handsome manner did justice to his merits; and said, that all his virtues were abundantly rewarded, when they were thus "praised, wept, and honoured by the muse he loved."

Lord North censured the unqualified liberality of the praises bestowed on general Montgomery by the gentlemen in opposition, because they were bestowed upon a rebel; and said he could not join in lamenting his death as a public loss. He admitted, indeed, that he was brave; he was able; he was humane; he was generous; but still he was only a brave, able, humane, and generous rebel; and said, that the verse of the tragedy of Cato might be applied to him,—"curse on his virtues, they've undone his country."

Mr. Fox rose a second time, and said the term of rebel, applied by the noble lord to that excellent person, was no certain mark of disgrace, and therefore he was the less earnest to clear him of the imputation; for that all the great assertors of liberty, the favourites of their country, the benefactors of mankind, in all ages had been called rebels; that they even owed the constitution, which enabled them to sit in that house, to a rebellion.

Lord Irham said it was a shame to punish the poor voters of Hindon and Shaftesbury for bribery, while the names of several members of parliament were to be found in the list of contractors amassing sums of money out of the calamities of their country. He moved that the accounts on the table of all the articles of extras for the army at Bolton, four-grout and all, might be published.

Mr. Tuffin complained of an extravagant article for pickles and vinegar for 6000 men at Bolton for three months; and said, that if they had lived upon nothing else the whole time, it could not have come to half the money.

Sir Joseph Mawbey objected to the war, and all the charges of it; he was bitter against the ministry, and said somebody must answer in the long run for this destructive war.

Lord North, Sir Grey Cooper, and Mr. Pownall, spoke in support of the measures, the expences and the resolutions of the committee of supply, and on putting the questions they were carried.

Mr. Burke then made the following motions:  
*Resolved*, That it appears to this house that the sum of £849,000 14s 8d one farthing, charged as extraordinary expences of the army, was chiefly incurred for services within the town of Bolton in North-America. It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That ample provision for the comfortable accommodation of our troops at Bolton having been made by the public, there could be no pretence to call upon the nation for any farther supply. Passed in the negative.

It may be depended upon as an absolute fact, that the prince of Brunswick positively refused to let his regiment go to America; and on its being insisted on, resigned his commission immediately.

B O S T O N, June 20.

'Tis worthy of special notice, that the 14th of June, 1774, was the last day allowed for trading vessels to leave or enter the port of Boston, through the cruelty of a British act of parliament; and that on the 14th of June, 1776, through the blessing of God upon the operations of a much injured and oppressed people, was the last day allowed for British men of war, or ministerial vessels to remain or enter within the said port, but American prizes. Thus has providence retaliated.

W A T E R T O W N, June 17.

Last Thursday the inhabitants of the town of Boston were made acquainted, by beat of drum, that an expedition was to be undertaken against our enemy's ships in Nantasket road, and for erecting proper fortifications in the lower harbour. Accordingly detachments from the colonial regiments commanded by the colonels Marshall and Whitney, and a battalion of train, com-

manded by lieutenant-col. Crafts, were embarked on board boats at the Long-wharf, together with cannon, ammunition, provisions, intrenching tools, and every necessary implement, and proceeded for Pettick's island and Hull, where they were joined by some continental troops and sea-coast companies, so as to make near 600 men at each place; a like number of militia from the towns in the vicinity of Bolton harbour, with a detachment from the train, and some field-pieces, took post at Moon-island, Hoff's-neck, and Point-Alderton. At the same time a detachment from the continental army under the command of col. Whitcomb, with two 18 pounders, one 13 inch mortar, with the necessary apparatus, intrenching tools, &c. were embarked for Long-island, to take post there. The troops did not arrive at their several places of destination till near morning, occasioned by a flat calm, notwithstanding, such was the activity and alertness of our men, that they had the cannon planted, and a line of defence hove up on Long-island and Nantasket-hill in a few hours, when a cannon shot from Long-island announced to the enemy our design. Upon which a signal was immediately made for the whole fleet, consisting of eight ships, two snows, two brigs, and one schooner, to remove and get under way. The commodore (Banks) bore our fire, and returned it with spirit, till a shot from Long-island pierced the upper works of his ship, when he immediately unmoored, or cut his cables, and got under sail; and happy for him that he did so! for, in a small space of time afterwards, a shell from our works fell into the very spot he had just before quitted. Unhappily our cannon did not arrive at Pettick's island and Nantasket as soon as might have been wished, but the fire from the latter place being properly pointed against the commodore's ship, who came too in the light-house channel, is apprehended to have done considerable execution. In short, the enemy were compelled once more to make a disgraceful precipitate flight; and we have it now in our power to congratulate our readers on our being in full possession of the lower harbour of Boston; and had the wind been to the eastward, we are confident we should have had the much greater pleasure of giving them joy on our being in the possession of many of their ships. Through Divine providence, not one of our men were hurt.

The ministerial fleet on Friday last, before they quitted the harbour of Bolton, blew up the light-house, which entirely destroyed the same.

H A R T F O R D, June 24.

Part of a letter from Capt. Seth Harding, commander of the brig Defence, in the continental service, to the hon. governor Trumbull, dated Boston, June 19.

"Honoured Sir,

"I sailed on Sunday last from Plymouth; soon after we came to sail, I heard a considerable firing to the northward. In the evening I fell in with four armed schooners, near the entrance of Boston harbour, who informed me they had been engaged with a ship and brig, and were obliged to quit them. Soon after I came up into Nantasket road, where I found the ship and brig at anchor. I immediately fell in between the two, and came to anchor about 11 o'clock at night. I hailed the ship, who answered, "From Great-Britain." I ordered her to strike her colours to America. They answered, asking, "What brig is that?" I told them "The Defence." I then hailed him again, and told him, "I did not want to kill his men, but would have the ship at all events," and again ordered them to strike; upon which the major (since dead) said, "yes, I'll strike!" and fired in a broad-side upon me, which I immediately returned, when an engagement began which lasted three glasses, when the ship and brig both struck. In this engagement I had nine men wounded, but none killed. The enemy had 18 killed, and a number wounded. My officers and men behaved with great bravery, none could have outdone them. We took out of the above vessels 210 prisoners, among whom is col. Campbell, of gen. Frazer's regiment of Highlanders. The major was killed in the engagement.

"Yesterday a ship was seen in the bay, which came towards the entrance of Boston harbour; upon which I came to sail, with four schooners in company; we came up with them, and took them without an engagement; there were on board 112 Highlanders. As there are a number more of the same fleet expected every day, and the general here urges my stay, I shall tarry a few days, and then proceed for New-London. My brig is much damaged in her sails and rigging.

I am, with great respect,

Your honour's most humble servant,

SETH HARDING."

The following is a list of the officers taken in the transports bound to Boston from Scotland, with Highlanders on board.

Lieutenant-colonel Campbell; captains Campbell, Maxwell, and Mackenzie; lieutenants Archibald Campbell, — Campbell, Dickinson, Helmsley, Coburne, M'Lane, Hugh Campbell, Mackenzie, Gordon, Frazer; quarter-master Ogilvie; ensign Frazer; surgeon's mate, Burnes.

Volunteers, with the rank of officers (who are impatiently waiting at "the pool" for the death and old shoes of commissioned officers) Messrs. Flint, M'Cougall, M'Raie, Wilson, John Campbell, Duncan Campbell, Colin Mackenzie, M'Lavish, Hume, and Dwar. Privates, 450.

Col. Campbell, we hear, was to have the chief command of the two Scotch battalions.

N E W - Y O R K, June 20.

The following authentic account is communicated by an officer of the detachment it principally concerned.

On advice that a reinforcement was necessary at Cedars, a small fort 45 miles S. W. from Montreal, where a party of 400 men, under the command of major Butterfield, were posted; on the 16th of May, 140 men under the command of major Henry Sherburne, were detached from Montreal. He met with great difficulties at the lake, which, after crossing, he was obliged to repass and cross again, so that it was the 20th before he could proceed from thence with 100 men, including himself, the rest being left for guards and other necessary services. About 11 or 12 o'clock they set out for the Cedars, distant 9 miles, and having marched about five, they were attacked by a large body of savages and Canadians, who under cover of a wood fired upon them; our people though entirely exposed maintained an obstinate engagement for one hour and forty minutes, when the savages having surrounded, rushed upon and disarmed them; then a scene of savage barbarity ensued, and many of our people were sacrificed to their fury, butchered with tomahawks and other instruments of murder. The enemy consisted of about 100 Canadians and 400 savages, who immediately stripped the prisoners almost naked, and drove them to the fort, where they were delivered to capt. Foster, of the 8th regiment, who had with him about 40 regulars, and then commanded the fort, which had been the day before surrendered to him, with little if any resistance, by major Butterfield, an event which was neither known, nor in the least suspected, by major Sherburne.

Capt. Foster and the regulars kept within the lines, and were not of the party who surrounded and so barbarously used our people; but after they were brought to the fort, they were repeatedly stripped of the small remainder of their cloaths, till many of them had not sufficient to hide their nakedness. Our loss in the whole action was about 28, viz. killed and wounded in the action, and killed afterwards in cold blood, about 20; carried off by the savages, seven or eight. Of the enemy were killed 22, whose deaths were ascertained, and among them a chief warrior of the Seneca tribe, on whose account our prisoners were probably used with the more cruelty, insult and abuse. Major Sherburne and the other officers were sent to an Indian town called Connasadoga, at the lake of the two mountains, the private men to a desolate island in the middle of the lake, where they were very scantily supplied with provision, barely sufficient to keep them from starving, and though the weather was cold, without any cloaths, and without any covering but the canopy of heaven, for eight days, when they were released on a cartel agreed to between gen. Arnold and capt. Foster, viz. That there should be an equal exchange of prisoners, within two months, allowing for casualties, and for the performance, on our part, were pledged the bodies of four captains, who were left as hostages, viz. capt. Sullivan (brother to the general) capt. Bliss, of major Sherburne's party, captains Stephens and Green, of major Butterfield's party.

General Arnold, with a party of about 8 or 900 men, arrived the 26th, and though with about 500 he appeared upon the lake, happily for the prisoners he did not cross it; if he had, it appeared from every circumstance that they would have been all murdered, dispositions having been made for that purpose; nor was it certain, considering the difficulty of access to the enemy, that he could have obtained any considerable advantage over them, or if he had, that he could possibly have cut off their retreat.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, June 24.

We hear, by a letter from New-York, that intelligence was received there of the 19th instant, of the armed sloop Schuyler having taken, about fifty miles from that city, on the south side of Long-island, a ship and sloop bound to Sandy-Hook. The ship from Glasgow, with a company of the forty-second regiment, had been taken by one of commodore Hopkins's fleet, who took the soldiers out and ordered her to Rhode-island; after which she was retaken by the Cerberus, and put under convoy of the sloop. As capt. Pond informs, there were five commissioned officers, two ladies, and four privates on board.

A letter from Salem in New-England says, "By a number of ship-masters who have very lately made their escape from Halifax, we are informed, that twenty transports with troops and three frigates are gone into the bay of Fundy to fortify a pass there, and prevent the continental forces from attacking their main body at Halifax."

Extract of a letter from Boston, June 13.

"Seven or eight transports have arrived below. This night we shall take several heights, which will oblige them either to give us battle or else go off if they can. We are resolutely determined they shall not remain where they now are 48 hours longer."

Extract of a letter from New-York, June 24.

"My last to you was by Friday's post, since which a most barbarous and infernal plot has been discovered among our troops, the particulars of which I cannot give you, as the committee of examination consists of but three, who are sworn to secrecy. Two of Washington's guards are concerned, the third they tempted to join them made the first discovery. The general reports of their design is as follows: Upon the arrival of the troops, they were to murder all the staff officers."



town. Gilbert Forbes, gunsmith, in the Broadway, was taken between two and three o'clock on Saturday morning, and carried before our provincial congress, who were then sitting, but refusing to make any discovery, he was sent to gaol and put in irons. Young Mr. Livingston went to see him early in the morning, told him he was sorry to find he had been concerned, and, as his time was very short, not having above three days to live, advised him to prepare himself. This had the desired effect; he asked to be carried before the congress again, and he would discover all he knew. Several have been since taken, between twenty and thirty, among them our mayor, who are all now under confinement. It is said their party consisted of about five hundred.

"I have just heard the mayor has confessed bringing money from Bryon, to pay for rifle guns that Forbes had made. Burgoyne is arrived at Quebec with his fleet."

#### WILLIAMSBURG, June 14.

This day arrived in town, from Georgia, on his way to the General Congress, George Walton, Esq; one of the delegates from that province; also lieutenants Watson and Pannell, on the recruiting service. By these gentlemen we learn, that the Convention of Georgia have authorized their delegates in Congress to concur in any scheme which may be proposed for the benefit of the United Colonies, even to a total separation from Great-Britain; and that, in the mean while, a form of government had been established in the province.

The following gentlemen are chosen officers for the six companies of light horse directed to be raised by the hon. general convention, viz. Captains, Theodorick Bland, jun. Benjamin Temple, John Jamelson, Lewelling Jones, Henry Lee, jun. and John Nelson, Esqrs. Lieutenants, Richard Call, Cuthbert Harrison, William Penn, spotwood Dandridge, John Belfield, and Addison Lewis, Esqrs. Cornets, John Henry, James Jones, William Lindlay, John Watts, Henry Peyton, and Henry Clements, Esqrs.

Two masters of vessels came to town this week, who were lately taken by the ministerial cruisers, and made their escape. They report, that lord Dunmore's whole army is now reduced to 40 regular soldiers, and 200 of the black fusiliers, 175 of which last corps died on their passage from Norfolk to Gwyn's island; and that Andrew Sprowle, Esq; of Golport three days after his landing, dejected this life, great part of which he spent in Virginia, much to his emolument, having amassed, by trade, a very capital fortune.

A Spanish brig from the Havannah, bound to Philadelphia, with 12,500 dollars on board, is taken off the capes of Delaware by the Liverpool frigate.

June 22. Last Monday an express arrived at headquarters from gen. Lee, who left his excellency the 6th instant, at Little-river, on the road to Charlestown, with three battalions of the North-Carolina troops, marching with all possible expedition to the assistance of that place; general Clinton, with upwards of 50 fail of men of war and transports, having appeared off their bar the Tuesday before, where they cast anchor. Two other North Carolina regiments, and col. Muhlenburg's Virginia battalion, were likewise on their march for Charlestown; with whose assistance it is not doubted but our brethren in South Carolina will be able to defeat any attempts of their enemies, and, when under the conduct of so able and experienced a commander, give them that chastisement which they are so richly entitled to.

By the same express we learn that a sloop arrived at Charlestown the 25th ult. from St. Eustatia, with 10,000 wt. of gunpowder; the master of which informed, that a large vessel had arrived at that island from Holland, deep loaded with arms and ammunition. He also said, that all the French ports in the West-Indies were now open to us, and that their ships of war have received orders to protect our vessels in and out of their harbours; that the French are fortifying Dunkirk, which produced a remonstrance from the British court, but without effect.

Last Thursday capt. Barron took, and brought up to Jamestown, a transport ship with 220 Highlanders on board, being part of Frazer's battalion, mostly recruits, and part of the 42d regiment, or royal highland watch. They were landed yesterday morning, and arrived here under a guard the same day. The transport had 16 wooden guns mounted; she was made prize of some little time before by the Congress privateer (as was also another transport that was in company with her) who took their officers from them, their arms and ammunition, and put on board ten hands to carry her into port; but being separated from the Congress in a gale of wind, the men overpowered those who had charge of the vessel, and were steering in search of lord Dunmore. Upon sight of capt. Barron's vessel they dispatched a boat to him, with a serjeant, one private, and one of the men who were put on board by the Congress, to make inquiry; the latter (finding a convenient opportunity) informed capt. Barron of their situation; upon which he boarded her and took possession. They have been out about 7 weeks from Greenock, and sailed in company with a large fleet. The above men, it is said, are all that were contained in both transports; the officers, arms, and ammunition were put on board the other.

#### ANNAPOLIS, July 4.

THE Convention of this colony have resolved, that a new Convention be elected for the express purpose of forming a new government, by the authority of the people only, and enacting and ordering all things for the preservation, safety and general weal of this colony; and have directed four representatives to be chosen for the upper, middle, and lower district of Frederick county, two for the city of Annapolis, two for Baltimore town, and four for each of the other counties of this colony; and have appointed Thursday the first day of August next for the elections in the counties, and Monday the fifth day of August for the elections in Baltimore town and the city of Annapolis.—All freemen (except those published as recusants) above twenty-one years of age, being freeholders of not less than 50 acres of land, or having visible property in the colony to the value of 40 pounds sterling at the least, and no others, are to be admitted to vote for members for the counties and Baltimore town: all freemen, above twenty-one years of age, owning a whole lot of land in the city of Annapolis, or having visible estate of 20 pounds sterling at the least, within the province, or having served five years to any trade within the city and being a housekeeper, and no others,

are to be admitted to vote for members for the city of Annapolis: provided such person shall have resided in the county, district, city or town, where he shall offer to vote, one whole year next preceding the election.—The elections are to be made viva voce, and held for all the counties (except Frederick, Charles and Cecil) at places of holding the county courts: the elections for the districts of Frederick county are to be held at the places appointed by the Convention in July last: the election for Charles county at the house of Bennett Hanson Clements: the election for Cecil county at the Head of Elk river.—Any person qualified to vote (except the regular officers and soldiers) may be elected, if above twenty-one years of age and shall have resided in the colony one whole year preceding the election.—No person is to come armed to the election, nor any muster to be made on the day of the election, nor can any battalion, or company of militia, or any ten men thereof give in their votes immediately succeeding each other, if any other voter, who offers to vote, objects thereto. Judges of the election are appointed for each county, the city of Annapolis and Baltimore town: the land on the south and west sides of the lines lately run between this colony and Pennsylvania are declared to be taken and accepted as within the jurisdiction of Maryland, and as part of the counties thereof adjoining thereto, and the inhabitants are equally to share in all the burdens, privileges and benefits with others the people of this colony.

The intended convention is to meet at the city of Annapolis, on Monday the 12th day of August next, and is not to continue beyond the first day of December next.

We are informed that the following are the INSTRUCTIONS drawn up and passed by a great number of the inhabitants of CHARLES county,

TO JONAS HAWKINS, THOMAS STONE, ROBERT T. HOOD, JOSEPH H. HARRISON, and WILLIAM HARRISON, Esqrs.

WE the subscribers, freemen of Charles county, in the province of Maryland, taking into our most serious consideration the present state of the unhappy dispute between Great-Britain and the United Colonies, and the very great distresses and hardships they have brought upon us thereby, think proper to deliver you our sentiments, and to instruct you in certain points relative to your conduct in the next convention, as representatives of this county. Reasons for the mode of voting and determining questions by a majority of counties have not appeared to us to exist since the last general election; therefore we charge and instruct you to move for and endeavour to obtain a regulation for voting individually, and determining questions by a majority of members, and not of counties, in future. [And as we know we have a right to hear, or be informed what is transacted in convention, we instruct you to move for and endeavour to obtain a resolve for the doors of the house to be kept open in future, and that, on all questions proposed and seconded, the yeas and nays be taken, and, together with every other part of your proceedings, published, except such only as may relate to military operations questions on which ought to be debated with the doors shut, and the determinations thereon kept secret.]

The experience we have had of the cruelty and injustice of the British government, under which we have too long borne oppression and wrongs, and notwithstanding every peaceable endeavour of the United Colonies to get redress of grievances, by decent, dutiful, and sincere petitions and representations to the king and parliament, giving every assurance of our affection and loyalty, and praying for no more than peace, liberty, and safety, under the British government, yet have we received nothing but an increase of insult and injury, by all the colonies being declared in actual rebellion; savages hired to take up arms against us; slaves proclaimed free, enticed away, trained and armed against their lawful masters; our towns plundered, burnt, and destroyed; our vessels and property seized on the seas, made free plunder to the captors, and our seamen forced to take arms against ourselves; our friends and countrymen, when captivated, confined in dungeons, and, as if criminals, chained down to the earth; our estates confiscated, and our men, women, and children, robbed and murdered. And as at this time instead of commissioners to negotiate a peace, as we have been led to believe, were coming out, a formidable fleet of British ships, with a numerous army of foreign soldiers, in British pay, are daily expected on our coast to force us to yield the property we have honestly acquired, and fairly own, and drudge out the remainder of our days in misery and wretchedness, leaving us nothing better to bequeath to posterity than poverty and slavery. We must, for these reasons, declare, that our affection for the people, and allegiance to the crown of Great-Britain, so readily and truly acknowledged till of late, is forfeited on their part. And as we are convinced that nothing virtuous, humane, generous, or just, can be expected from the British king, or nation, and that they will exert themselves to reduce us to a state of slavery, by every effort and artifice in their power, we are of opinion that the time is fully arrived for the colonies to adopt the last measure for our common good and safety, and that the sooner they declare themselves separate from, and independent of the crown and parliament of Great-Britain, the sooner they will be able to make effectual opposition, and establish their liberties on a firm and permanent basis. We therefore most earnestly instruct and charge you to move for, without loss of time, and endeavour to obtain positive instructions, from the convention of Maryland to their delegates in congress, immediately to join the other colonies in declaring, that the United Colonies no longer owe allegiance to, nor are they dependent upon, the crown or parliament of Great-Britain, or any other power on earth, but are, for time to come, free and independent states; provided that the power of forming government, and regulating the internal concerns of each colony, be left to their respective legislatures; and that the said delegates give the assent of this province to any further confederation of the colonies for the support of their union, and for forming such foreign commercial connexions as may be requisite and necessary for our common good and safety. And as the present government under the king cannot longer exist with safety to the freemen of this province, we are of opinion a new form of government, agreeable to the late recommendation of the honourable continental congress to all the United Colonies, ought immediately to be adopted.

To the honourable MATTHEW TILGHMAN, Esq; JAMES LLOYD CHAMBERLAIN, EDWARD LLOYD, NICHOLAS THOMAS, and POLLARD EDMONDSON, Esqrs. representatives for TALBOT county, in convention now sitting.

The ADDRESS of part of the FREEMEN of the said county.

#### GENTLEMEN,

THE vast importance of the dispute now subsisting between Great Britain and the North-American colonies, the fatal consequences that must attend the management of that dispute, and the effects they must inevitably have on us in common with the neighbouring governments, sufficiently justify us your constituents in laying our sentiments before you, on the present occasion, respecting the measures taken for carrying into execution the plan proposed for the preservation of our liberties, now in the most imminent danger.

We therefore, in virtue of that right which the constituent hath in his representative, or deputy, take leave to express to you our great concern and sorrow, that we cannot approve the measures pursued in the last session of convention. We have seen, with grief and astonishment, the convention of Maryland, in matters of the utmost importance, resolving in direct opposition to the honourable congress. We have also seen it, in our opinion, profusely lavishing the public money, at a time when the constituents are labouring under every burthen which imagination can conceive, without money, without trade, or any possible means of procuring either. We likewise view its instructions to our delegates in congress, of the 18th of January and 21st of May last, as tending, in direct terms, to a breach of that confidential harmony so happily, before that, subsisting among the United Colonies, and which we, in common with every colonist embarked in the cause of liberty, beheld as our greatest glory, and the only source of protection. Its resolves, in opposition to those in congress of the 15th of May, declaring it to be necessary that the exercise of any kind of authority under the crown of Great-Britain should be totally suppressed, and all the powers of government exerted under the authority of the people, we conceive to be a direct breach of the continental union, and to have a tendency to introduce anarchy and confusion, by setting up and continuing two separate and opposite authorities at the same time binding on the good people of this province. We look upon the rule of voting in convention by counties to be dangerous, as productive of influence which may be used to rule the determinations and resolves of the house by a minority of twenty-seven members, who, in such case, may have all the effects of a majority. We consider our present mode of government by conventions and committees as insufficient to accomplish the end for which it was instituted; and dangerous, so far as it unites the legislative and executive powers in nearly the same persons, which is the true definition of tyranny. We would by no means insinuate, that the convention hath any intention or using its power to that purpose, and hope we shall not be so understood by you; but it is proper to guard against probable evil, where the liberties of mankind are concerned. We have seen, with sorrow of heart, the king of Great-Britain inexorably determined upon the ruin of our liberties. We view the parliament as lost to all sense of justice and humanity, attached to, and governed by, a corrupt and wicked ministry, who are intending the ruin of their intimated master, or determined to make his government absolute, and erect a tyranny over his dominions, of which they expect to have the direction. We have seen all the petitions of the congress treated with contempt; an act of parliament, declaring our resistance against actual violence to be rebellion; excluding us from the protection of the crown, and compelling such of the colonists as shall be taken prisoners to fight against their country; the treaties of the king of Great-Britain with the European princes, for engaging foreign mercenaries to aid the forces of that kingdom in their attempts to subdue the Americans, or cut their throats; and by his answer to the address of the lord mayor, aldermen, and common council of the city of London, he manifests such a determined resolution to effect the destruction of American freedom, that we cannot entertain the most distant expectations of a reconciliation on reasonable terms. This being the case, we look on all lukewarm backwardness in the convention of this province, in the common cause of America, and every opposition to the resolves of congress calculated for our safety and general security (as we are convinced that of the 15th of May above-mentioned was) to be of the most dangerous tendency, and that it will naturally induce the ministry to look on this province as friendly to their measures, and, in all probability, bring their forces among us, by which we shall have our country made the seat of war, and experience all its horrors. Possessed with these sentiments, we in the most earnest terms request your attention to the following instructions, viz.

First. That you use your utmost influence that the instructions given by Convention to our delegates in Congress before-mentioned be rescinded, and that they may be instructed by the present Convention to concur and co-operate with the delegates of the other United Colonies, in forming such further compacts between the said colonies, concluding such treaties with foreign kingdoms, and in adopting such other measures as shall be judged necessary for promoting the liberty, safety and interest of America, and defeating the schemes and machinations of our enemies, the king, parliament and ministry of Great-Britain.

Second. That you use the same influence to induce the Convention to comply with the resolves of Congress of the 15th of May last, in exerting all the powers of government under the authority of the people of this province, by forming a constitution adequate to that purpose; and in case the present Convention shall decline that task, that you promote and procure a resolve to determine their power at the end of the present session, and order an election for members to compose a new Convention, for the purpose of forming such constitution.

Third. That you use your endeavours to procure a different mode of voting in Convention, that the method may be by the members each voting separately, as was formerly practiced in assembly; that in all questions of importance, when the house divides, the yeas and nays be constantly taken, and published with the proceedings, for the information of the public respecting the behaviour of their representatives.

Fourth. That a stop be put to the desertion of any party or by the as no fair election represented, province, for tioned.

Fifth. That to have the me from among the ing persons d source of all p

Sixth. That Convention to at elections by mand, a danger timent natu mander.

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Fourth. That you use your utmost endeavours to put a stop to the executing the writs of election we understand are already issued in the name of the proprietary or by the authority of the king of Great-Britain, as no fair elections can be held, or the people legally represented, under the present circumstances of this province, for reasons too obvious to require being mentioned.

Fifth. That you use your endeavours and influence to have the members of the Council of Safety appointed from among the delegates in Convention only, they being persons duly elected by the people, who are the source of all power.

Sixth. That you endeavour to procure a resolve of Convention to prevent any undue influence being used at elections by military officers over the men they command, a danger which may possibly arise from the attachment natural enough in the soldier to his commander.

Seventh. That you move for and promote a reasonable regulation to enable debtors to pay off their creditors in country produce especially in the case of rents and interest due on obligations or otherwise, and also the public levies now due.

Eighth. That you endeavour to procure a resolve of Convention to exclude all officers civil or military from holding seats in Convention or Congress, after appointment to each office, until reelected; and to exclude all members of Congress from a seat in the Convention.

Ninth. That you endeavour to reduce the enormous allowance of £25 per week, given to each of our delegates in Congress, this being a time when strict economy is necessary; and also reduce the allowance of members in Convention to a sum adequate to their necessary expence, as we are persuaded you will agree with us in opinion that the present state of this province will by no means admit of profusion.

In CONVENTION. June 25, 1776.

RESOLVED *unanimously*, That this province will furnish 3405 of its militia to form a flying camp, and to act with the militia of Pennsylvania and the Delaware government, in the middle department, that is to say, from this province to New-York, inclusive, according to the request of the Congress in their resolutions of the third day of this instant, June.

That for that purpose four battalions be instantly raised, each of them to consist of nine companies, and each company to consist of ninety men, to wit, one captain, two lieutenants, one ensign, four sergeants, four corporals, one drummer, one fifer, and seventy six privates; each of the said battalions to be commanded by one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, and one major, and that to each battalion there be allowed a quarter-master, an adjutant, a surgeon, and two assistants; and that over and above the said battalions, there be also instantly raised one other company, to consist of one captain, three lieutenants, four sergeants, four corporals, one drummer, one fifer, and ninety six privates; and that the whole of the militia so to be raised, be commanded by a brigadier-general, who shall have the appointment of a brigade-major.

That warrants immediately issue to such persons as shall be appointed by this Convention to take the enrollments of the said non-commissioned officers and privates, which enrollments shall be made up of those who shall voluntarily offer themselves for the said service, and subscribe an enrollment in the following words, to wit: We the subscribers do hereby enroll ourselves to serve as militia of Maryland in the middle department, that is to say, from this province to New-York, inclusive, until the first day of December next, unless sooner discharged by the honorable Congress, according to the resolutions of the Convention of Maryland, held at Annapolis the 21st day of June, 1776.

That the said warrants be in the following form, to wit:

By the Convention of Maryland, June 25, 1776, YOU are empowered to enroll effective freemen, to act as militia of this province in the middle department, according to the resolutions of this Convention, and the form of enrollment herewith delivered to you, on your doing which, and their passing as effective, you are to be entitled to, and shall receive a commission as captain, or first or second lieutenant or ensign, as the case may be, of a company to be composed partly of those you enroll.

MATTHEW TILGHMAN, President.

To ——— of ——— county.

That thirty men be expressed in the warrant to a captain, twenty men in the warrant to each of the lieutenants, and sixteen men in the warrant to the ensign of the said companies.

That all enrollments be returned to the Convention or Council of Safety, as soon as filled up, or if not completed by the 20th day of July at farthest, and if any of those to whom warrants shall be directed cannot enroll the full number of effective freemen by that day, the Convention on it sitting will, or the Council of Safety in the recess of Convention shall, give a commission to the person to whom the warrant shall have been directed, or to any other person who may best promote and forward the service, but a commission shall issue of course in every case where the full number shall be enrolled according to the warrant.

That none of the said militia be compelled to serve out of the said limits, or beyond the said first day of December next, and during the time of their service shall be under the command of the general officer, or such, who shall be appointed by the Congress, and shall be subject and liable to the rules and regulations already provided by this Convention for the government of the militia when called into actual service, and no other.

That as camp-kettles cannot be had, the said militia be supplied with 850 small iron pots or kettles, with bales, at the expence of this province, and that they be also furnished with cartouch-boxes, and as far as may be with tents.

That such of the militia who have effective firelocks, use the same, that such of them as have firelocks not effective, but that may be made so by small repairs, have such repairs done at the expence of this province, and use their own firelocks, and those who have not sufficient firelocks be furnished by the Council of Safety out of the arms now belonging to, or that shall be procured for the use of the public, and by the committees of observation in the respective county where they inlist, out of the arms in their keeping, delivered in by, or taken from those who have not subscribed the association, have not enrolled in the militia, so far as such arms will extend, and the deficiency shall be made up by borrowing the firelocks of such of the militia as will, and on the public faith, which is hereby pledged to return the same in the like order as received, or in case of loss, the value thereof. And all firelocks so to be lent shall be valued by two freeholders, and a certificate given to the owner by the officer who enrolled the men supplied therewith, of the receipt and value of the same arms.

That all arms so furnished by the Council of Safety, or committees of observation, or lent as aforesaid, as well as the tents, cartouch boxes, kettles, and pots, shall be carefully preserved and returned; and if any shall not be returned from gross negligence, the captain of the company where such negligence shall be suffered, shall be answerable to the public for the loss, and the immediate delinquent to the captain.

That the Council of Safety, in the recess of Convention, direct the formation of the companies in battalions, and appoint what companies shall compose such battalions.

That for the ascertaining the rank of the captains, lieutenants, and ensigns of the said companies, commissions shall issue by the Convention, or Council of Safety, and be dated of the day such captain, lieutenant, or ensign, shall have enrolled the number of men expressed in his warrant; and rank as between officers of equal degree, shall take place according to such date, but where there shall be enrollments completed on the same day by officers of the same degree, the rank shall be settled by ballot between such officers, and the commissions marked accordingly.

That on the issuing of the warrants or granting of commissions as aforesaid, there be paid by the treasurer of the shore where such person resides, on producing an order from the Council of Safety, the sum of £.69 : 15 : 0 to each captain, £.46 : 10 : 0 to each lieutenant, and £.37 : 5 : 0 to every ensign, out of the bills of credit; to be advanced to the non-commissioned officers and privates in part of their wages, at the discretion of the officer, who shall be answerable for, and accountable to this province for the money advanced as aforesaid.

That as some of the militia may be under contracts to perform particular services by the year, month, or other time, any such who shall enroll as aforesaid, shall be entitled to their wages for the time they shall have continued in the service of their employer, in consequence of such contract, in proportion to the time they shall have served.

That the several companies shall be mustered and passed by some one of the field officers of the county where such company shall be raised, and the captain shall return two copies of his muster-roll, certified by the field officer who musters the men, to the Council of Safety, who shall transmit one of the copies to the Congress.

Extract from the minutes,  
G. DUVALL, clk.

In CONVENTION. 29 June, 1776.

RESOLVED, That the bills of credit issued by the Congress and the Conventions of this province, be received by the commissioners of the loan office in payment of any interest due to the said office.

Extract from the minutes,  
G. DUVALL, clk.

TO THE PEOPLE OF MARYLAND.

THERE never was a time in which it was more necessary for you to enquire into the conduct of your representatives. If on examination and a strict scrutiny you approve, let your honour and confidence be given to your present delegates. If you find good cause to suspect their political principles or probity, discard, without hesitation, such men from your service, with contempt, disgrace and infamy. If you discover a want of judgment and fortitude if their conduct is weak, timid and irresolute, dismiss them with silence, as unfit to advise or govern in the present state of your affairs, which demands wisdom to plan and firmness to execute. If only an error in judgment can be imputed to them, correct it by your advice and instructions.

The December Convention appointed a committee to prepare a draught of instructions for the deputies in Congress, who reported the following as *unanimously* agreed to by them.

In CONVENTION.

To the hon. M. Tilghman, Esq; T. Johnson, jun. S. Chale, Robert Goldborough, W. Paca, T. Stone, Robert Alexander, and John Rogers, Esquires.

The Convention taking into their most serious consideration, the present state of the unhappy dispute between Great-Britain and the united colonies, think it proper to deliver you the sentiments, and to instruct you in certain points relative to your conduct in Congress as representatives of this province.

James Holaday, Charles Carroll, barrister, James Tilghman, Gubanus Scott, and Benjamin Knapton, Esq;.

The experience we and our ancestors have had of the mildness and equity of the English government under which we have grown up to, and enjoyed a state of felicity not exceeded by any people we know of, until the grounds of the present controversy were laid by the ministry and parliament of Great-Britain has most strongly endeared to us that constitution from whence these blessings have been derived, and makes us ardently wish for a reconciliation with the mother country, upon terms that may insure to these colonies an equal and permanent freedom. To this constitution we are attached not only by habit, but by principle, being in our judgments persuaded, it is of all known systems, best calculated to secure the liberty of the subject, to guard against despotism on the one hand, and intemperance on the other.

Impressed with these sentiments, we warmly recommend to you to keep constantly in your view the avowed end and purpose for which these colonies originally associated — the redress of American grievances, and securing the rights of the colonists.

The remarkable success which has attended the American arms afford so happy an opportunity of winning to our sovereign, to our brethren of Great-Britain, and to the world, the sincerity of our frequent declarations of our strong desire of reconciliation, that as representatives of this province, we think it our duty to instruct you, to take the first opportunity to move for in Congress, and use your utmost endeavours to have prepared and transmitted, an humble petition to the throne, disavowing in the most solemn manner, all design in these colonies of independence, and declaring in explicit terms, that they have nothing more in view than the establishment of their just rights, expressing the ardent desire to be restored to the confidence of their sovereign, and to that happy connection which subsisted between them and the parent state before their present troubles began, and praying the royal interposition with parliament for the speedy restoration of peace and tranquility to the divided empire. As upon the obtention of these great objects we shall think it our greatest happiness to be firmly united to Great-Britain in a constitutional dependence upon the imperial crown and parliament thereof, we think proper to instruct you, that should any proposition be happily made by the crown or parliament that may lead to, or lay a rational and probable ground for reconciliation, you use your utmost endeavours to cultivate and improve it into a happy settlement and lasting amity; taking care to secure the united colonies against the exercise of the right assumed by parliament to tax America, and to alter and change the charters and constitutions of the said colonies, which cannot be admitted without destroying the essential security of the lives, liberties and properties of the colonists.

We further instruct you, that you do not, without the previous knowledge and approbation of the Convention of this province, assent to any proposition to declare these colonies independent of the crown of Great-Britain; nor to any proposition for making or entering into alliance with any foreign power; nor to any union or confederation of these colonies which may necessarily lead to a separation from the mother country. Desirous as we are of peace with Great Britain upon safe and honourable terms, we wish you nevertheless, and instruct you to join with the other colonies in such military operations as you shall judge proper and necessary for the common defence until such a peace can be happily obtained. At the same time that we assure you we have an entire confidence in your abilities and integrity in the discharge of the great trust reposed in you, we must observe to you as our opinion, that in the relation of constituent and representative, one principal security of the former is the right he holds to be fully informed of the conduct of the latter. We can conceive no case to exist in which it would be of more importance to exercise this right than the present, nor any in which we can suppose the representative would more willingly acquiesce in the exercise of it; we therefore instruct you, that you from time to time, as occasions may offer, lay before the Convention of this province the proceedings and the part you take in the general deliberations of the Congress, except such military operations as may be judged necessary to be kept secret.

To determine the propriety of this province urging the Congress to petition the king of Great-Britain in January last, it may be proper to observe, that the petition proposed was in substance, and almost in words, the same with the one sent by the Congress, and then lying before the throne. The proclamation declaring all the colonies in rebellion, was issued a few days after the arrival and knowledge of our petition, and was published in all the news-papers. It was also well known that the parliament was called and expected to meet in October. The petition proposed would not probably arrive in England before the month of March, before which time the measures of parliament must have been taken, and would not be in the least influenced by the petition. To send a second petition of the same nature, before a knowledge of the fate of the first, could answer no other purpose but to discover an unreasonable fondness for peace, and encourage a wicked and implacable tyrant in the pursuit of his diabolical schemes. This part of the instructions were agreed to by the Convention, and struck out, on the next day, after the receipt of the king's speech.

The instruction not to assent to any proposition of independence, for a foreign alliance, nor to any union of the colonies, which might necessarily lead to a separation, without the previous knowledge and approbation of the Convention, might have produced the most fatal consequences to all America. Cases might have happened in which it would have been expedient to have formed foreign alliances without any delay; if they could not be entered into without the consent of Maryland, tho' a very great majority of the colonies should esteem such measure wise and absolutely necessary, the opportunity of saving America might have been lost. The Congress alone could have the best intelligence and comprehensive view of our affairs, and would be the most capable judges when this step ought to be taken. Interest, policy and necessity would induce this province not to separate from her sister colonies. Why then discover a distrust and want of confidence in the Congress, that is a majority of the colonies? Why disclose to the world that this province would not be bound to unite with a majority of them?

AN AMERICAN.



town. Gilbert Forbes, gunsmith, in the Broadway, was taken between two and three o'clock on Saturday morning, and carried before our provincial congress, who were then sitting, but refusing to make any discovery, he was sent to gaol and put in irons. Young Mr. Livingston went to see him early in the morning, told him he was sorry to find he had been concerned, and, as his time was very short, not having above three days to live, advised him to prepare himself. This had the desired effect; he asked to be carried before the congress again, and he would discover all he knew. Several have been since taken, between twenty and thirty, among them our mayor, who are all now under confinement. It is said their party consisted of about five hundred.

"I have just heard the mayor has confessed bringing money from Tryon, to pay for rifle guns that Forbes had made. Burgoyne is arrived at Quebec with his fleet."

#### WILLIAMSBURG, June 14.

This day arrived in town, from Georgia, on his way to the General Congress, George Walton, Esq; one of the delegates from that province; also lieutenants Walton and Pannell, on the recruiting service. By these gentlemen we learn, that the Convention of Georgia have authorized their delegates in Congress to concur in any scheme which may be proposed for the benefit of the United Colonies, even to a total separation from Great-Britain; and that, in the mean while, a form of government had been established in the province.

The following gentlemen are chosen officers for the six companies of light horse directed to be raised by the hon. general convention, viz. Captains, Theodorick Bland, jun. Benjamin Temple, John Jamelson, Lewelling Jones, Henry Lee, jun. and John Nelson, Esqrs. Lieutenants, Richard Call, Cuthbert Harrison, William Penn, Spotswood Landridge, John Belfield, and Addison Lewis, Esqrs. Cornets, John Henry, James Jones, William Lindsay, John Watts, Henry Peyton, and Henry Clements, Esqrs.

Two masters of vessels came to town this week, who were lately taken by the ministerial cruisers, and made their escape. They report, that Lord Dunmore's whole army is now reduced to 40 regular soldiers, and 200 of the black fusiliers, 175 of which last corps died on their passage from Norfolk to Gwyn's island; and that Andrew Sprowle, Esq; of Golport, three days after his landing, departed this life, great part of which he spent in Virginia, much to his enolument, having amassed, by trade, a very capital fortune.

A Spanish brig from the Havannah, bound to Philadelphia, with 12,500 dollars on board, is taken off the capes of Delaware by the Liverpool frigate.

June 22. Last Monday an express arrived at headquarters from Gen. Lee, who left his excellency the 6th instant, at Little-river, on the road to Charlestown, with three battalions of the North-Carolina troops, marching with all possible expedition to the assistance of that place; general Clinton, with upwards of 50 sail of men of war and transports, having appeared off their bar the Tuesday before, where they call anchor. Two other North Carolina regiments, and col. Muhlenburg's Virginia battalion, were likewise on their march for Charlestown; with whose assistance it is not doubted but our brethren in South Carolina will be able to defeat any attempts of their enemies, and, when under the conduct of so able and experienced a commander, give them that chastisement which they are so richly entitled to.

By the same express we learn that a sloop arrived at Charlestown the 25th ult. from St. Eustatia, with 10,000 wt. of gunpowder; the master of which informed, that a large vessel had arrived at that island from Holland, deep loaded with arms and ammunition. He also said, that all the French ports in the West-Indies were now open to us, and that their ships of war have received orders to protect our vessels in and out of their harbours; that the French are fortifying Dunkirk, which produced a remonstrance from the British court, but without effect.

Last Thursday capt. Barron took, and brought up to Jamestown, a transport ship with 220 Highlanders on board, being part of Frazer's battalion, mostly recruits, and part of the 42d regiment, or royal highland watch. They were landed yesterday morning, and arrived here under a guard the same day. The transport had 16 wooden guns mounted; she was made prize of some little time before by the Congress privateer (as was also another transport that was in company with her) who took their officers from them, their arms and ammunition, and put on board ten hands to carry her into port; but being separated from the Congress in a gale of wind, the men overpowered those who had charge of the vessel, and were steering in search of Lord Dunmore. Upon sight of capt. Barron's vessel they dispatched a boat to him, with a sergeant, one private, and one of the men who were put on board by the Congress, to make inquiry; the latter (finding a convenient opportunity) informed capt. Barron of their situation; upon which he boarded her and took possession. They have been out about 7 weeks from Greenock, and sailed in company with a large fleet. The above men, it is said, are all that were contained in both transports; the officers, arms, and ammunition were put on board the other.

#### ANNAPOLIS, July 4.

THE Convention of this colony have resolved, that a new Convention be elected for the express purpose of forming a new government, by the authority of the people only, and enacting and ordering all things for the preservation, safety and general weal of this colony; and have directed four representatives to be chosen for the upper, middle, and lower district of Frederick county, two for the city of Annapolis, two for Baltimore town, and four for each of the other counties of this colony; and have appointed Thursday the first day of August next for the elections in the counties, and Monday the fifth day of August for the elections in Baltimore town and the city of Annapolis.—All freemen (except those published as enemies,) above twenty-one years of age, being freeholders of not less than 50 acres of land, or having visible property in the colony to the value of 40 pounds sterling at the least, and no others, are to be admitted to vote for members for the counties and Baltimore town; all freemen, above twenty-one years of age, owning a whole lot of land in the city of Annapolis, or having visible estate of 20 pounds sterling at the least, within the province, or having served five years to any trade within the city and being a housekeeper, and no others,

are to be admitted to vote for members for the city of Annapolis: provided such person shall have resided in the county, district, city or town, where he shall offer to vote, one whole year next preceding the election.—The elections are to be made viva voce, and held for all the counties (except Frederick, Charles and Cecil) at the places of holding the county courts: the elections for the districts of Frederick county are to be held at the places appointed by the Convention in July last: the election for Charles county at the house of Bennett Hanson Clements: the election for Cecil county at the Head of Elk river.—Any person qualified to vote (except the regular officers and soldiers) may be elected, if above twenty-one years of age and shall have resided in the colony one whole year preceding the election.—No person is to come armed to the election, nor any muster to be made on the day of the election, nor any battalion, or company of militia, or any ten men thereof give in their votes immediately succeeding each other, if any other voter, who offers to vote, objects thereto. Judges of the election are appointed for each county, the city of Annapolis and Baltimore town: the land on the south and west sides of the lines lately run between this colony and Pennsylvania are declared to be taken and accepted as within the jurisdiction of Maryland, and as part of the counties thereof adjoining thereto, and the inhabitants are equally to share in all the burdens, privileges and benefits with others the people of this colony.

The intended convention is to meet at the city of Annapolis, on Monday the 12th day of August next, and is not to continue beyond the first day of December next.

We are informed that the following are the INSTRUCTIONS drawn up and passed by a great number of the inhabitants of CHARLES county,

To JONAS HAWKINS, THOMAS STONE, ROBERT T. HOVE, JOSEPH H. HARRISON, and WILLIAM HARRISON, Esqrs.

WE the subscribers, freemen of Charles county, in the province of Maryland, taking into our most serious consideration the present state of the unhappy dispute between Great-Britain and the United Colonies, and the very great distress and hardships they have brought upon us thereby, think proper to deliver you our sentiments, and to instruct you in certain points relative to your conduct in the next convention, as representatives of this county. Reasons for the mode of voting and determining questions by a majority of counties have not appeared to us to exist since the last general election; therefore we charge and instruct you to move for and endeavour to obtain a regulation for voting individually, and determining questions by a majority of members, and not of counties, in future. (And as we know we have a right to hear, or be informed what is transacted in convention, we instruct you to move for and endeavour to obtain a resolve for the doors of the house to be kept open in future, and that, on all questions proposed and seconded, the yeas and nays be taken, and together with every other part of your proceedings, published, except such only as may relate to military operations questions on which ought to be debated with the doors shut, and the determinations thereon kept secret.

The experience we have had of the cruelty and injustice of the British government, under which we have too long borne oppression and wrongs, and notwithstanding every peaceable endeavour of the United Colonies to get redress of grievances, by decent, dutiful, and sincere petitions and representations to the king and parliament, giving every assurance of our affection and loyalty, and praying for no more than peace, liberty, and safety, under the British government, yet have we received nothing but an increase of insult and injury, by all the colonies being declared in actual rebellion; savages hired to take up arms against us; slaves proclaimed free, enticed away, trained and armed against their lawful masters; our towns plundered, burnt, and destroyed; our vessels and property seized on the seas, made free plunder to the captors, and our seamen forced to take arms against ourselves; our friends and countrymen, when captured, confined in dungeons, and, as if criminals, chained down to the earth; our estates confiscated, and our men, women, and children, robbed and murdered. And as at this time instead of commissioners to negotiate a peace, as we have been led to believe, were coming out, a formidable fleet of British ships, with a numerous army of foreign soldiers, in British pay, are daily expected on our coast to force us to yield the property we have honestly acquired, and fairly own, and drudge out the remainder of our days in misery and wretchedness, leaving us nothing better to bequeath to posterity than poverty and slavery. We must, for these reasons, declare, that our affection for the people, and allegiance to the crown of Great-Britain, for so long truly acknowledged till of late, is forfeited on their part. And as we are convinced that nothing virtuous, humane, generous, or just, can be expected from the British king, or nation, and that they will exert themselves to reduce us to a state of slavery, by every effort and artifice in their power, we are of opinion that the time is fully arrived for the colonies to adopt the last measure for our common good and safety, and that the sooner they declare themselves separate from, and independent of the crown and parliament of Great-Britain, the sooner they will be able to make effectual opposition, and establish their liberties on a firm and permanent basis. We therefore most earnestly instruct and charge you to move for, without loss of time, and endeavour to obtain positive instructions from the convention of Maryland to their delegates in congress, immediately to join the other colonies in declaring, that the United Colonies no longer owe allegiance to, nor are they dependent upon, the crown or parliament of Great-Britain, or any other power on earth, but are, for time to come, free and independent states; provided that the power of forming government, and regulating the internal concerns of each colony, be left to their respective legislatures; and that the said delegates give the assent of this province to any further confederation of the colonies for the support of their union; and for forming such foreign commercial connexions as may be requisite and necessary for our common good and safety. And as the present government under the king cannot longer exist with safety to the freemen of this province, we are of opinion a new form of government, agreeable to the late recommendation of the honourable continental congress to all the United Colonies, ought immediately to be adopted.

To the honourable MATTHEW TILGHMAN, Esq; JAMES LLOYD CHAMBERLAINE, EDWARD LLOYD, NICHOLAS THOMAS, and POLLARD EDMONSON, Esqrs. representatives for TALBOT county, in convention now sitting.

The ADDRESS of part of the FREEMEN of the said county.

#### GENTLEMEN,

THE vast importance of the dispute now subsisting between Great Britain and the North-American colonies, the fatal consequences that must attend the mismanagement of that dispute, and the effects they must inevitably have on us in common with the neighbouring governments, sufficiently justify us your constituents in laying our sentiments before you, on the present occasion, respecting the measures taken for carrying into execution the plan proposed for the preservation of our liberties, now in the most imminent danger.

We therefore, in virtue of that right which the constituent hath in his representative, or deputy, take leave to express to you our great concern and sorrow, that we cannot approve the measures pursued in the last session of convention. We have seen, with grief and astonishment, the convention of Maryland, in matters of the utmost importance, resolving in direct opposition to the honourable congress. We have also seen it, in our opinion, profusely lavishing the public money, at a time when the constituents are labouring under every burthen which imagination can conceive, without money, without trade, or any possible means of procuring either. We likewise view its instructions to our delegates in congress, of the 18th of January and 21st of May last, as tending, in direct terms, to a breach of that confidential harmony so happily, before that, subsisting among the United Colonies, and which we, in common with every colonist embarked in the cause of liberty, beheld as our greatest glory, and the only source of protection. Its resolves, in opposition to those in congress of the 15th of May, declaring it to be necessary that the exercise of any kind of authority under the crown of Great-Britain should be totally suppressed, and all the powers of government exerted under the authority of the people, we conceive to be a direct breach of the continental union, and to have a tendency to introduce anarchy and confusion, by setting up and continuing two separate and opposite authorities at the same time binding on the good people of this province. We look upon the rule of voting in convention by counties to be dangerous, as productive of influence which may be used to rule the determinations and resolves of the house by a minority of twenty-seven members, who, in such case, may have all the effects of a majority. We consider our present mode of government by conventions and committees as insufficient to accomplish the end for which it was instituted; and dangerous, so far as it unites the legislative and executive powers in nearly the same persons, which is the true definition of tyranny. We would by no means insinuate, that the convention hath any intention of using its power to that purpose, and hope we shall not be so understood by you; but it is proper to guard against probable evil, where the liberties of mankind are concerned. We have seen, with sorrow of heart, the king of Great-Britain inexorably determined upon the ruin of our liberties. We view the parliament as lost to all sense of justice and humanity, attached to, and governed by, a corrupt and wicked ministry, who are intending the ruin of their infatuated master, or determined to make his government absolute, and erect a tyranny over his dominions, of which they expect to have the direction. We have seen all the petitions of the congress treated with contempt; an act of parliament, declaring our resistance against actual violence to be rebellion; excluding us from the protection of the crown, and compelling such of the colonists as shall be taken prisoners to fight against their country; the treaties of the king of Great-Britain with the European princes, for engaging foreign mercenaries to aid the forces of that kingdom in their attempts to subdue the Americans, or cut their throats; and by his answer to the address of the lord mayor, aldermen, and common council of the city of London, he manifests such a determined resolution to effect the destruction of American freedom, that we cannot entertain the most distant expectations of a reconciliation on reasonable terms. This being the case, we look on all lukewarm backwardness in the convention of this province, in the common cause of America, and every opposition to the resolves of congress calculated for our safety and general security (as we are convinced that of the 15th of May above-mentioned was) to be of the most dangerous tendency, and that it will naturally induce the ministry to look on this province as friendly to their measures, and, in all probability, bring their forces among us, by which we shall have our country made the seat of war, and experience all its horrors. Possessed with these sentiments, we in the most earnest terms request your attention to the following instructions, viz.

First. That you use your utmost influence that the instructions given by Convention to our delegates in Congress before-mentioned be rescinded, and that they may be instructed by the present Convention to co-operate and co-operate with the delegates of the other United Colonies, in forming such further compacts between the said colonies, concluding such treaties with foreign kingdoms, and in adopting such other measures as shall be judged necessary for promoting the liberty, safety and interest of America, and defeating the schemes and machinations of our enemies, the king, parliament and ministry of Great-Britain.

Second. That you use the same influence to induce the Convention to comply with the resolves of Congress of the 15th of May last, in exerting all the powers of government under the authority of the people of this province, by forming a constitution adequate to that purpose; and in case the present Convention shall decline that task, that you promote and procure a resolve to determine their power at the end of the present session, and order an election for members to compose a new Convention, for the purpose of forming such constitution.

Third. That you use your endeavours to procure a different mode of voting in Convention, that the method may be by the members each voting separately, as was formerly practised in assembly; that in all questions of importance, when the house divides, the yeas and nays be constantly taken, and published with the proceedings, for the information of the public respecting the behaviour of their representatives.

Fourth. That you put a stop to the election of members by the district or by the county, as no fair election can be represented, under the present mode of election, for real estate in the province.

Fifth. That you to have the members from among the district persons duly qualified, and source of all power.

Sixth. That you Convention to provide at elections by ballot, a danger to the natural manner.

Seventh. That you able regulation to the country and interest due to the public levies.

Eighth. That Convention to examine holding seats in Congress to each other members of Congress.

Ninth. That you allowance of Congress in Congress is necessary members in Congress, with us in opinion, since will by no means.

#### In CONVENTION

RESOLVED, will furnish 3400 camp. And to the Delaware settlement, that is, New York, inclusive Congress in the infant, June.

That for that raised, each of and each company one captain, two sergeants, four corporals, seventy-six privates, be commanded by a colonel, and one major, and two adjutants, there pay, to consist of sergeants, four corporals, privates, militia to be raised, general, who shall grade-major.

That warrant as shall be appointed enrollments of the privates, which those who shall said service, and following words, to enroll ourselves in the middle department to New of December next, the Convention of the 21st day of July.

That the said By the Convention YOU are empowered freemen, to act middle department this Convention, with delivered to their passing as a second lieutenant, a company to be MATTHEW

To —

That thirty men captain, twenty lieutenants, and ensign of the said

That all enrollment or Council not complicated and if any of the cannot enroll by that day, the Council of Safety shall have been as may best promote commission shall the full number warrant.

That none of out of the said December next, shall be under the such, who shall be substituted already government of service, and no



Fourth. That you use your utmost endeavours to put a stop to the executing the writs of election we understand are already issued in the name of the proprietary or by the authority of the king of Great-Britain, as no fair elections can be held, or the people legally represented, under the present circumstances of this province, for reasons too obvious to require being mentioned.

Fifth. That you use your endeavours and influence to have the members of the Council of Safety appointed from among the delegates in Convention only, they being persons duly elected by the people, who are the source of all power.

Sixth. That you endeavour to procure a resolve of Convention, to prevent any undue influence being used at elections by military officers over the men they command, a danger which may possibly arise from the present natural enmity in the soldier to his commander.

Seventh. That you move for and promote a reasonable regulation to enable debtors to pay off their creditors in country produce especially in the case of rents and interest due on obligations or otherwise, and also the public levies now due.

Eighth. That you endeavour to procure a resolve of Convention to exclude all officers civil or military from holding seats in Convention or Congress, after appointment to each office, until reelected; and to exclude all members of Congress from a seat in the Convention.

Ninth. That you endeavour to reduce the enormous allowance of £15 per week, given to each of our delegates in Congress, this being a time when strict economy is necessary; and also reduce the allowance of members in Convention to a sum adequate to their necessary expence, as we are persuaded you will agree with us in opinion that the present state of this province will by no means admit of profusion.

In CONVENTION. June 25, 1776.

RESOLVED unanimously, That this province will furnish 3405 of its militia to form a flying camp, and to act with the militia of Pennsylvania and the Delaware government, in the middle department, that is to say, from this province to New-York, inclusive according to the request of the Congress in their resolutions of the third day of this instant, June.

That for that purpose four battalions be instantly raised, each of them to consist of nine companies, and each company to consist of ninety men, to wit, one captain, two lieutenants, one ensign, four sergeants, four corporals, one drummer, one fifer, and seventy-six privates; each of the said battalions to be commanded by one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, and one major, and that to each battalion there be allotted a quartermaster, an adjutant, a surgeon, and two assistants; and that over and above the said battalions, there be instantly raised one other company, to consist of one captain, three lieutenants, four sergeants, four corporals, one drummer, one fifer, and ninety-six privates; and that the whole of the said militia so to be raised, be commanded by a brigadier-general, who shall have the appointment of a brigade-major.

That warrants immediately issue to such persons as shall be appointed by this Convention to take the enrollments of the said non-commissioned officers and privates, which enrollments shall be made up of those who shall voluntarily offer themselves for the said service, and subscribe an enrollment in the following words, to wit: We the subscribers do hereby enroll ourselves to serve as militia of Maryland in the middle department, that is to say, from this province to New York, inclusive, until the first day of December next, unless sooner discharged by the honourable Congress, according to the resolutions of the Convention of Maryland, held at Annapolis the 21st day of June, 1776.

That the said warrants be in the following form, to wit.

By the Convention of Maryland, June 25, 1776. YOU are empowered to enroll effective freemen, to act as militia of this province in the middle department, according to the resolutions of this Convention, and the form of enrollment herewith delivered to you, on your doing which, and their passing as effective, you are to be entitled to, and shall receive a commission as captain, or first or second lieutenant or ensign, as the case may be, of a company to be composed partly of those you enroll.

MATTHEW TILGHMAN, President.

To \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ county.

That thirty men be expressed in the warrant to a captain, twenty men in the warrant to each of the lieutenants, and sixteen men in the warrant to the ensign of the said companies.

That all enrollments be returned to the Convention or Council of Safety, as soon as filled up, or if not completed by the 20th day of July at farthest, and if any of those to whom warrants shall be directed cannot enroll the full number of effective freemen by that day, the Convention or Council of Safety, or the Council of Safety in the recess of Convention shall, issue a commission to the person to whom the warrant shall have been directed, or to any other person as may best promote and forward the service, but a commission shall issue of course in every case where the full number shall be enrolled according to the warrant.

That none of the said militia be compelled to serve out of the said limits, or beyond the said first day of December next, and during the time of their service shall be under the command of the general officer, as such, who shall be appointed by the Congress, and shall be subject and liable to the rules and regulations already provided by this Convention for the government of the militia when called into actual service, and no other.

That as camp-kettles cannot be had, the said militia be supplied with 850 small iron pots or kettles, with bales, at the expence of this province, and that they be also furnished with cartouch-boxes, and as far as may be with tents.

That such of the militia who have effective firelocks, use the same, that such of them as have firelocks not effective, but that may be made so by small repairs, have such repairs done at the expence of this province, and use their own firelocks, and those who have not sufficient firelocks be furnished by the Council of Safety out of the arms now belonging to, or that shall be procured for the use of the public, and by the committees of observation in the respective county where they enlist, out of the arms in their keeping, delivered in by, or taken from those who have not subscribed the association, or have not enrolled in the militia, so far as such arms will extend, and the deficiency shall be made up by borrowing the firelocks of such of the militia as will lend on the public faith, which is hereby pledged to return the same in the like order as received, or in case of loss, the value thereof. And all firelocks so to be lent shall be valued by two freeholders, and a certificate given to the owner by the officer who enrolled the men supplied therewith, of the receipt and value of the same arms.

That all arms so furnished by the Council of Safety, or committees of observation, or lent as aforesaid, as well as the tents, cartouch boxes, kettles, and pots, shall be carefully preserved and returned; and if any shall not be returned from gross negligence, the captain of the company where such negligence shall be suffered, shall be answerable to the public for the loss, and the immediate delinquent to the captain.

That the Council of Safety, in the recess of Convention, direct the formation of the companies in battalions, and appoint what companies shall compose such battalions.

That for the ascertaining the rank of the captains, lieutenants, and ensigns of the said companies, commissions shall issue by the Convention, or Council of Safety, and be dated of the day such captain, lieutenant, or ensign, shall have enrolled the number of men expressed in his warrant; and rank as between officers of equal degree, shall take place according to such date, but where there shall be enrollments completed on the same day by officers of the same degree, the rank shall be settled by ballot between such officers, and the commissions marked accordingly.

That on the issuing of the warrants or granting of commissions as aforesaid, there be paid by the treasurer of the shore where such person resides, on producing an order from the Council of Safety, the sum of £.69 : 15 : 0 to each captain, £.46 : 10 : 0 to each lieutenant, and £.37 : 5 : 0 to every ensign, out of the bills of credit; to be advanced to the non-commissioned officers and privates in part of their wages, at the discretion of the officer, who shall be answerable for, and accountable to this province for the money advanced as aforesaid.

That as some of the militia may be under contracts to perform particular services by the year, month, or other time, any such who shall enroll as aforesaid, shall be entitled to their wages for the time they shall have continued in the service of their employer, in consequence of such contract, in proportion to the time they shall have served.

That the several companies shall be mustered and passed by some one of the field officers of the county where such company shall be raised, and the captain shall return two copies of his muster-roll, certified by the field officer who musters the men, to the Council of Safety, who shall transmit one of the copies to the Congress.

Extract from the minutes,  
G. DUVAL, clk.

In CONVENTION. 29 June, 1776.

RESOLVED, That the bills of credit issued by the Congress and the Conventions of this province, be received by the commissioners of the loan office in payment of any interest due to the said office.

Extract from the minutes,  
G. DUVAL, clk.

TO THE PEOPLE OF MARYLAND.

THERE never was a time in which it was more necessary for you to enquire into the conduct of your representatives. If on examination and a strict scrutiny you approve, let your honour and confidence be given to your present delegates. If you find good cause to suspect their political principles or probity, discard, without hesitation, such men from your service, with contempt, disgrace and infamy. If you discover a want of judgment and fortitude, if their conduct is weak, timid and irresolute, dismiss them with silence, as unfit to advise or govern in the present state of your affairs, which demands wisdom to plan and firmness to execute. If only an error in judgment can be imputed to them, correct it by your advice and instructions.

The December Convention appointed a committee to prepare a draught of instructions for the deputies in Congress, who reported the following, as unanimously agreed to by them.

In CONVENTION.

To the hon. M. Tilghman, Esq; T. Johnson, jun. S. Chale, Robert Goldborough, W. Paca, T. Stone, Robert Alexander, and John Rogers, Esquires.

The Convention taking into their most serious consideration, the present state of the unhappy dispute between Great-Britain and the united colonies, think it proper to deliver you the following instructions, and to instruct you in certain points relative to your conduct in Congress as representatives of this province.

James Holyday, Charles Carroll, barrister, James Tilghman, Gustavus Scott, and Benjamin Knollys, Esqrs.

The experience we and our ancestors have had of the mildness and equity of the English government under which we have grown up to, and enjoyed a state of felicity not exceeded by any people we know of, until the grounds of the present controversy were laid by the ministry and parliament of Great-Britain, has most strongly endeared to us that constitution from whence these blessings have been derived, and makes us ardently wish for a reconciliation with the mother country, upon terms that may insure to these colonies an equal and permanent freedom. To this constitution we are attached not only by habit, but by principle, being in our judgments persuaded, it is of all known systems, best calculated to secure the liberty of the subject, to guard against despotism on the one hand, and intemperance on the other.

Impressed with these sentiments, we warmly recommend to you to keep constantly in your view the avowed end and purpose for which these colonies originally associated—the redress of American grievances, and securing the rights of the colonists.

The remarkable success which has attended the American arms afford so happy an opportunity of bringing to our sovereign, to our brethren of Great-Britain, and to the world, the sincerity of our frequent declarations of our strong desire of reconciliation, that as representatives of this province, we think it our duty to instruct you, to take the first opportunity to move for in Congress, and use your utmost endeavours to have prepared and transmitted, an humble petition to the throne, disavowing in the most solemn manner, all design in these colonies of independence, and declaring in explicit terms, that they have nothing more in view than the establishment of their just rights, expressing the ardent desire to be restored to the confidence of their sovereign, and to that happy connection which subsisted between them and the parent state before their present troubles began, and praying the royal interposition with parliament for the speedy restoration of peace and tranquillity to the divided empire. As upon the obtaining of these great objects we shall think it our greatest happiness to be firmly united to Great-Britain in a constitutional dependence upon the imperial crown and parliament thereof, we think proper to instruct you, that should any proposition be happily made by the crown or parliament that may lead to, or lay a rational and probable ground for reconciliation, you use your utmost endeavours to cultivate and improve it into a happy settlement and lasting amity; taking care to secure the united colonies against the exercise of the right assumed by parliament to tax America, and to alter and change the charters and constitutions of the said colonies, which cannot be admitted without destroying the essential security of the lives, liberties and properties of the colonists.

We further instruct you, that you do not, without the previous knowledge and approbation of the Convention of this province, assent to any proposition to declare these colonies independent of the crown of Great-Britain; nor to any proposition for making or entering into alliance with any foreign power; nor to any union or confederation of these colonies which may necessarily lead to a separation from the mother country. Desirous as we are of peace with Great Britain upon safe and honourable terms, we wish you nevertheless, and instruct you to join with the other colonies in such military operations as you shall judge proper and necessary for the common defence until such a peace can be happily obtained. At the same time that we assure you we have an entire confidence in your abilities and integrity in the discharge of the great trust reposed in you, we must observe to you as our opinion, that in the relation of constituent and representative, one principal security of the former is the right he holds to be fully informed of the conduct of the latter. We can conceive no case to exist in which it would be of more importance to exercise this right than the present, nor any in which we can suppose the representative would more willingly acquiesce in the exercise of it; we therefore instruct you, that you from time to time, as occasions may offer, lay before the Convention of this province the proceedings and the part you take in the general deliberations of the Congress, except such military operations as may be judged necessary to be kept secret.

To determine the propriety of this province urging the Congress to petition the king of Great-Britain in January last, it may be proper to observe, that the petition proposed was in substance, and almost in words, the same with the one sent by the Congress, and then lying before the throne. The proclamation declaring all the colonies in rebellion, was issued a few days after the arrival and knowledge of our petition, and was published in all the news-papers. It was also well known that the parliament was called and expected to meet in October. The petition proposed would not probably arrive in England before the month of March, before which time the measures of parliament must have been taken, and would not be in the least influenced by the petition. To send a second petition of the same nature, before a knowledge of the fate of the first, could answer no other purpose but to discover an unreasonable fondness for peace, and encourage a wicked and implacable tyrant in the pursuit of his diabolical schemes. This part of the instructions were agreed to by the Convention, and struck out, on the next day, after the receipt of the king's speech.

The instruction not to assent to any proposition of independence, for a foreign alliance, nor to any union of the colonies, which might necessarily lead to a separation, without the previous knowledge and approbation of the Convention, might have produced the most fatal consequences to all America. Cases might have happened in which it would have been expedient to have formed foreign alliances without any delay; if they could not be entered into without the consent of Maryland, tho' a very great majority of the colonies should esteem such measure wise and absolutely necessary, the opportunity of saving America might have been lost. The Congress alone could have the best intelligence and comprehensive view of our affairs, and would be the most capable judges when this step ought to be taken. Interest, policy and necessity would induce this province not to separate from her sister colonies. Why then discover a distrust and want of confidence in the Congress, that is a majority of the colonies? Why disclose to the world that this province would not be bound to unite with a majority of them?

AN AMERICAN.



In CONVENTION, May 22, 1776.

RESOLVED, That a public salt-work be erected on or near the Bay, near the mouth of Patowmack, and another on the sea board of this province; and that the said works be carried on on the public account, under the management and direction of such persons as shall be appointed by the Council of Safety for the time being; and that any sum of public money, not exceeding the sum of five hundred pounds, may, by order of the said Council of Safety, be expended in erecting and carrying on each of the said works.

Extract from the minutes,

G. DUVALL, clk.

In COUNCIL of SAFETY, June 10, 1776.

ALL persons who are willing to undertake the erecting and carrying on salt-works, agreeable to the above resolve of the late Convention, are requested to attend the Council, and give in their proposals, which will be duly attended to.

By order,

G. DUVALL, clk.

I HEREBY give notice to the representatives of the estate of James Maccubbin, deceased, that unless they indemnify me by the 22d instant, from the claims of the creditors against said estate, I will expose the same to sale in order to discharge the said claims.

3w WILLIAM WOODWARD, admr.

June 6, 1776.

THE copartnership of the subscribers being now at an end, all persons indebted are desired to settle their accounts either by bond or note; those that do not comply by the 20th of July, may depend on application being made to the committee of licence, without respect to persons.

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JAMES LEATCH,  
GILBERT IRELAND.

Upper Marlborough, Prince-George's county,  
June 25, 1776.

COMMITTED to my custody as a runaway, a Scots woman, who calls herself Cullen Stewart, and says she belongs to a certain Robert Fryer, about 20 miles above Alexandria in Virginia, on the Leesburg road. She is a lusty young woman, and has on an old country cloth jacket, a pretty good country cloth petticoat, and a country flaxen linen shirt. Her master is desired to pay charges and take her from

3w

RALPH FORSTER.

EIGHT DOLLARS REWARD.

Paxton, June 26, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in Paxton township, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, on the 5th day of May, an indentured servant lad named JAMES HANNAH, about 18 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, of a ruddy complexion, short brown hair, full faced and well made: had on when he went away, an old whitish coloured coat with metal buttons, a coarse blue broadcloth jacket, a pair of striped linen trousers, a new felt hat, and a pair of black yarn stockings, half worn shoes, with steel buckles, can neither read nor write. Whoever takes up said servant and secures him, so as his master may have him again, shall have the above reward and reasonable charges, paid by

w2

JOSEPH HUTCHINSON.

N. B. All recruiting officers in the navy and army are requested not to enlist him, and all masters of vessels are forbid to carry him off.

June 16, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, near Elk Ridge church, the 11th instant at night, the two following convicts, to wit.

JAMES WILSON, about 25 years of age, 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, short black hair, black eyes: had on and took with him, a black and white striped country cloth jacket with sleeves, wove plain, with pewter buttons resembling a dollar, white country cloth breeches, kersey wove (patched on the knees with striped cloth), new country linen shirts, coarse shoes with strings, thread stockings, felt hat bound round the edge, and red silk handkerchief. He ran away last year, and was committed to Harford jail by the name of MILES TOWNSEND, which likely is his proper name, as he is marked on the back of the hand MT with Indian ink, and on the thighs MT. IW and several other letters, and the dates of sundry years; has been in the country about 3 years, and pretends to be a mafon.

EDMUND WELLS, about 18 or 19 years of age, 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, much pitted with the small-pox, sandy hair curled behind and cut short on the top of the head, speaks hastily, and frequently uses the word mortal, as mortal good, mortal bad, and the like: had on and took with him, white country cloth jacket and breeches kersey wove (the breeches patched with striped cloth), new country linen shirts, mixed yarn stockings, shoes with buckle straps, but has no hat unless he steals one. He went off in May last and attempted to pass as a deserter from a man of war, and having been in the naval service he knows the officers and duties on board. Each had on an iron collar when they went off; it is likely they may change cloaths and names.

Whoever takes up and secures said servants, shall have if found from home 30 shillings, if 40 miles 40 shillings, and if out of the province 3 pounds, including what the law allows, and reasonable charges if brought home.

THOMAS SAPPINGTON.

Just published, and to be sold at the Printing-office,

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION OF THE PROVINCE OF MARYLAND,

Held at the city of Annapolis, on Wednesday the 8th of May, 1776.

June 5, 1776.

THE Subscriber will attend at Talbot county Court-House, on every Tuesday of the week, for the purpose of giving in exchange bills of credit, emitted by the Provincial Convention the seventh day of December, 1775, for those emitted by the Provincial Convention the twenty-sixth day of July, 1775.

6w

WILLIAM HINDMAN,  
treasurer of the Eastern-shore.

FIFTEEN POUNDS REWARD.

Annapolis, June 12, 1776.

RAN away last night from the subscribers, the following English servant men, viz.

JOHN FERGUSON (who frequently went by the name of FOX, from the colour of his hair, it being very red), about 20 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, thin visage, pitted with the small-pox: had on and took with him, when he went away, two check shirts, one ofsnabrig jacket, one frize ditto, two pair of ofsnabrig trousers, and a half worn straw hat lined with green silk, and had a green ribbon round the crown.

HENRY PRATT, about 20 years of age, who professes the art of cookery, a little pitted with the small pox, short black hair, very thin visage: had on and took with him, when he went away, one white cloth jacket, one ofsnabrig ditto, two check shirts, two pair of ofsnabrig trousers, a new pair of pumps, and an old castor hat.

RICHARD CARRINGTON, about 23 years of age, by trade a cabinet-maker, about 5 feet 4 or 5 inches high, very much pitted with the small-pox, stoops in his shoulders, short light coloured hair, very talkative when in liquor: had on and took with him, when he went away, a short brown cloth coat trimmed with white metal buttons, one bath-coating jacket, one pair of ofsnabrig trousers, two brown sheeting shirts; he also took with him a silver mounted cuttenu with a white bone hilt, the blade very straight and badly polished, and the scabbard half finished.

There was also taken from the Dock the same night, a yellow bottom BOAT, about 25 feet keel, with black bends and gunwales, not finished in the cabin, no hatches, and the sails but indifferent; the fore-sail much longer than the main-sail, the main gaff much too long; the property of Gilbert Middleton, one of the subscribers; and it is supposed that they went off in that boat, as John Ferguson frequently went in her as a hand. It is probable that they may quit the boat and pass for deserters from Lord Dunmore, knowing that such are much countenanced throughout this continent.

Whoever takes up said servants and secures them and the boat, so that the owners may get them again, shall be entitled to the above reward, or if the servants only are taken and brought home, or secured so that the owners may get them again, shall receive ten pounds, or in proportion for any of them, or five pounds for securing the boat, and reasonable charges if brought home; paid by

tf

GILBERT MIDDLETON,  
or  
SHAW & CHISHOLM.

Upper Marlborough, June 1, 1776.

THE subscriber, intending to quit the province as soon as he can bring his affairs into such compass as to be left to an agent, earnestly intreats all persons indebted to him to settle their accounts, by giving bond with security for their respective balances. Those who do not comply with this reasonable request, may depend that immediate application will be made to the committee for leave to bring suits against them; and all persons who have claims against him are desired to bring them in, that they may be adjusted and discharged. The different deputy sheriffs of Prince-George's county have lists of all balances due to him as sheriff, and should any dispute arise on such balances, and on application to himself he may not be able to satisfy the person about it, he will readily submit such to any one, two or more gentlemen in the neighbourhood where such person lives who disputes them; and, for the ease of those who cannot pay money, he will take tobacco, corn, cattle, horses, sheep, or any thing else they may have to dispose of, that there is the least prospect of turning into cash soon, in discharge of them.

tf

RALPH FORSTER.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in Annapolis, a negro fellow named FLANDERS; he has no toes, and has been used to go by water. Whoever will take him up and bring him home to his mistress shall have three pounds reward, including what the law allows.

ANNE GAITHER.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in Calvert county, on Monday the 10th of June, a lusty negro fellow named WILL: had on when he went away, a country cloth jacket, ofsnabrig shirt and trousers; 'tis probable he may alter his dress. Whoever takes up the said negro, or secures him in any way, so as I may get him again, shall be entitled to a reward of twenty shillings, besides what the law allows.

ALEXANDER OGG.

June 26, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in Prince-George's county, near Mr. Richard Snowden's Iron-works, on Sunday last, a convict servant man named WILLIAM SHEPPARD, by trade a shemmer, about 5 feet 4 or 5 inches high, has short brown hair, is of a swarthy complexion, and has an ugly down look. He has been hurt in his right leg, which causes him to limp and to walk on the end of his toes on that side: had on and took with him a castor hat almost new, an old claret coloured coat much torn on the shoulders, new green jacket, ofsnabrig shirt, old leather breeches patched on the knees, white yarn stockings, and an old pair of shoes.

The above servant ran away on the 10th of May last and was taken up and brought home a day or two before he took his last departure. He stole out of my pasture on Sunday last a young black mare 3 years old, about 13 hands 3 inches high, docked but not branded, her off hind foot white. He also took with him a set of shoemakers tools.

Whoever secures the said servant and mare, so that their master may get them again, shall receive five pounds reward: for the servant alone three pounds, and for the mare forty shillings, and if brought home all reasonable charges, paid by

tf

JOSEPH DUVALL.

Pig-Point, June 14, 1776.

WANTED,

A GOOD WEAVER. Either a single man or a man with a small family, that will come well recommended, shall meet with encouragement, by applying

w4

WILLIAM SIMMONS, son of Richard.

Annapolis, June 19, 1776.

WANTED TO HIRE IMMEDIATELY,

A SINGLE MAN, who understands waiting at table, and can write a good hand. Such a person, of good character, may hear of a place, where good encouragement will be given, by applying to the printer hereof.

WANTED at Fort Frederick furnace and J. J. Forge in Frederick county, a large quantity of cord wood cut. Any persons that are willing to hire their negroes for that purpose, may know the terms, by applying to Mr. Lancelot Jacques in Annapolis, or to the subscriber living at the works.

DENTON JACQUES.

THOMAS HANWOOD, jun. treasurer of the Western-shore, will give constant attendance at his office in West-street, Annapolis, to give in exchange bills of credit emitted by the Provincial Convention of Maryland the seventh day of December, 1775, for those emitted by the Convention the twenty-sixth day of July, 1775.

THREE PENCE per pound is given for fine white LINEN RAGS, and one penny per pound for coarse, by the Printer hereof.

Charles county, May 31, 1776.

COMMITTED to my custody as a runaway, a negro man by the name of Phil, who says he belongs to Robert Smith, living in Frederick county; the fellow is well known here, having some time ago lived with one Peter Green of this county, who (as I understand) sold him to said Smith. His master is desired to pay charges and take him from

4w

WILLIAM HANSON, sheriff.

Patuxent Iron-Works, February 6, 1776.

BEING desirous of settling the estate of our father, RICHARD SNOWDEN, late of Patuxent Iron-Works, deceased, we request all such as are indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, as no longer indulgence will be given them. Also all persons that are indebted to the Patuxent Iron-Works Company, of more than twelve months standing, are requested to come immediately and make payment; and those who have it not in their power to make immediate payment, it is expected they will come and settle their accounts by note or bond. If the above requests are not complied with, we shall take such methods as will compel a settlement, without respect to persons, although it will be disagreeable to

tf

SAMUEL and JOHN SNOWDEN.

SIX DOLLARS REWARD.

STRAYED away from the widow M'Donnell's, between Baltimore and Annapolis, on Thursday night the 13th of March, out of the fodder house, a bay horse, about 14 hands and an half high, paces, trots, and gallops, marked C S on his left shoulder. Whoever takes up said horse, and brings him to capt. Samuel Maynard's at Herring-Creek, or to William Hayes, Fell's Point, Baltimore, shall receive the above reward, and reasonable charges paid if brought home.

Mr. alderman BULL  
the house the con  
British pay 17,000

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## MARYLAND GAZETTE 109

T H U R S D A Y, JULY 18, 1776

L O N D O N, March 8.

N E W - Y O R K, July 4.

Mr. alderman BULL's speech, to refer to a committee of the house the consideration of the treaties for taking into British pay 17,000 foreign troops, to be sent to America.

**I**CANNOT, Sir, at this time, forbear to express my astonishment and concern, that early in the present session so many gentlemen should have been prevailed upon, by any considerations, to stand forth, in the most serious and solemn manner, to approve and sanction those cruel and arbitrary measures which were recommended, and have been factually carried into execution, by an unfeeling and unrelenting administration, who have dared to abuse the throne by their wicked and sanguinary councils, and whose whole conduct has proved them entirely destitute of every principle of justice, of humanity, and the religion of their country. Their insatiable thirst for Protestant blood has been long evident; and it cries aloud to heaven for vengeance, as well as for the just indignation of a long abused, insulted, oppressed people. To exult in the destruction of our most valuable commercial friends, and Protestant fellow-subjects; to pray that the same horrid scenes may be repeated; that war, desolation, and bloodshed, may pervade the whole continent of America, unless it shall bow its devoted head to popery, to poverty, to the most abject and ignominious slavery, were not the fact on record, would be thought incredible! That record, Sir, to a nation professing a regard to liberty, and the rights of humanity, will remain an eternal monument of reproach.

Sir, it is certain, is it probable, that the exertions of ministerial tyranny and revenge will be much longer permitted? That there will be no appeal to stop the further effusion of Protestant blood? Or can it be expected that the people of this country, reducing by thousands to beggary and want, will remain idle spectators till the sword is at their breasts, or dragoons at their doors? God forbid. I am not insensible how much professions of patriotism are become a subject of ridicule. To the astonishment of the world, the love of our country has been ridiculed within these walls. And yet, Sir, this shall not restrain me. While I will uniformly withhold the offer of my life and fortune in support of ministerial despotism, I wish it to be understood that, whenever occasion may call it, I will cheerfully sacrifice both in defence of the liberties of the people.

The war that you are now waging is an unjust one; it is founded in oppression, and its end will be distress and misery. Let not the historian be obliged to say that the Russian and the German have been hired to subdue the sons of Englishmen and of freedom; and that in the reign of a prince of the house of Brunswick, every infamous attempt was made to extinguish that spirit which brought his ancestors to the throne, and in spite of treachery and rebellion, seated them firmly upon it.

I shall not now trouble the house any further than to declare my abhorrence of all the measures which have been adopted against America; measures equally inimical to the principles of commerce, to the spirit of the constitution, and to the honour, to the faith, and the true dignity of the British nation.

April 5. Wednesday new cloathing for the guards, who are going to America, was shipped on board some transports lying at the Tower wharf, and they immediately fell down to Gravesend, to proceed from thence for Spithead; and yesterday morning the waggons that have been at the Tower wharf some time were begun to be shipped on board some transports.

Yesterday a messenger was sent from the admiralty to Portsmouth, with dispatches for general Howe, to be sent by the Greyhound sloop, now ready to sail for Boston.

Extract of a letter from Norwich, dated March 25, 1776.

"The woollen manufactory, the sole support of this great and once flourishing city, has so materially suffered by the present American war, that a considerable number of valuable and industrious young men have been obliged to insist to avoid starving. Should they be transported to America, to fight against their friends and fellow-subjects, contrary to their inclinations, and solemn promises made them by the recruiting officers, in whom they confide, and who assure them they are only intended to replace those soldiers who are going there, they will no doubt desert."

April 9. Capt. Hotham is preferred to a broad pendant, and will act third in command on the American station.

Capt. Hawkes is appointed to the command of the Mermaid frigate, at Plymouth.

A squadron of men of war under the command of a rear-admiral, completely victualled and manned for a foreign voyage, is intended to lay at Spithead this summer, in order to be in readiness to sail on any emergency.

Extract of a letter from Corke, March 29.

"Yesterday and this morning the following transports arrived here, viz. the Christy, Bodfield; Osterhollo, Stobergh; Speedwell, Fox; Friendship, Coldstream; and Levant, Thomas; from Plymouth. Gall, Jefferson; Thomas, Sides; Amity's Succession, Cousins; Charming Sally, Whalley; Lucretia, Wilson; Providence, Wane; Sarah, Pander, and Aston; from London. Grace, Cooke; Succession, Tisdall; John, Hunter; Lively, Witherden; Britannia, Bally; and Garland, Preston; from Portsmouth, with troops, &c. The above ships, which are expected to sail in a few days for Boston, are to be conveyed by two men of war."

Last Saturday arrived at the Hook (like the swarm of locusts escaped from the bottomless pit) a fleet said to be 130 sail of ships and vessels from Halifax, having on board gen. Howe, &c. sent out by the tyrants of Great-Britain, after destroying the English constitution there, on the pious design of enslaving the British colonies and plundering their property at pleasure, or murdering them at once, and taking possession of all, as Ahab did of Naboth's vineyard.

On Monday about 1000 of them landed on the west end of Long-island, but soon embarked again, and seeing a party of rifle-men, said to be about 1000, gave them three huzzas, which they returned with the Indian war-whoop. On Tuesday morning some of them appeared coming up, and before night about forty-five sail came above the Narrows, and anchored at and near the Watering-place, where they fired about fifty cannon shot, of which we have not heard the occasion, and landed many of their men, whom we could plainly see exercising and parading.

It was apprehended they intended to penetrate into the interior parts of the island, or to some of the neighbouring towns, but it does not appear that they have yet attempted it, or done anything on shore except taking up a little bridge on the causeway between the landing and the highlands, at the ferry. We hear general Mercer, with a detachment, was yesterday dispatched to watch their motions, and act as occasion might require.

We are assured that major Lamb, capt. Oswald, and capt. Burr, are prisoner on board this fleet.

July 8. The fleet from Halifax, we informed our readers in our last, was arrived at Sandy-Hook, to the amount of 113 sail; it is difficult, from their situation, to ascertain their number, but we suppose it does not exceed 130 sail: Monday it came up into Yakes's bay, below the Narrows; Tuesday several ships came too at the Watering place; Wednesday more followed; and by Thursday noon the whole fleet was at anchor in a line from Kill Van Kull to Simonson's ferry, on the east side of Staten-island. The Asia brought up the rear of the fleet, and in the narrows was fired at from a small battery on Long-island, which compliment was returned by about forty 24 pounders, one of which lodged in the wall of the house of Mr. Pennet, but did no hurt to the family; and three shot had near done much mischief to the house and family of Mr. Dennis Dennise, one of them narrowly missing the kitchen, wherein was a number of the family; a second struck the barn, and the third destroyed much of the fence of the garden opposite the front door of the mansion-house.

Part of the army is encamped on Staten-island, and we have not the least reason to doubt will endeavour to secure the north side thereof by intrenchments, whilst the shipping protect the other parts.

As soon as the troops landed they paraded the north shore, and on Wednesday morning made their appearance near Elizabeth-town point; but the country being soon alarmed, they retreated, took up the floor of the draw-bridge in the salt meadows, and immediately threw up some works.

A sloop of 12 six pounders, belonging to the fleet from Halifax, laying in the Kills, near Mr. Decker's ferry, was almost torn to pieces last Wednesday morning, by a party under the command of general Herd, from the opposite shore, with two 18 pounders. The crew soon abandoned the sloop, and we suppose she is rendered unfit for any further service.

We hear two men of war are laying near Amboy, in order, it is supposed, to stop all navigation that way.

The number of Highlanders lately taken prisoners in the different vessels from Scotland, amounts to about seven hundred and fifty.

Since our last arrived the first division of Connecticut forces commanded by the hon. brigadier general's Waterbury and Wadsworth.

Yesterday seven seamen, belonging to the Killingworth transport of 700 tons, were brought to town from Long-island, having deserted the ship the night before: They say the number of soldiers with the fleet is about 2500, who are all encamped; and that many of the seamen intended to desert the fleet when an opportunity presented.

Last Wednesday night the captain of a transport, and four of his men, were taken at the Narrows, and brought to town: They were looking for a boat that had gone adrift, and going too near the shore were taken by the riflemen.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, July 8.

In C O N G R E S S, July 4, 1776.

Resolved, That the board of war be empowered to employ such a number of persons as they shall find necessary to manufacture flints for the continent; and for this purpose to apply to the respective assemblies, conventions, and councils or committees of safety of the United American states, or committees of inspection of the counties and towns thereto belonging, for the names and places of abode of persons skilled in the manufactory aforesaid, and of the places in their respective states where the best flint stones are to be obtained, with samples of the same.

By order of congress,

JOHN HANCOCK, president.

WAR-OFFICE, Philadelphia, July 6, 1776.

ALL persons in the United American states, who are able to inform the congress of any quantities of flint

stone, or of any persons who are skilled in the manufacture of flints, are requested to apply in person or by letter, to the board of war and ordnance, at the war-office, in Market-street, near the corner of Fourth-street.—All printers of news-papers in the several states are desired to insert this advertisement

RICHARD PETERS, jun. secretary.

Extract of a letter from the camp at Sorel, June 13.

"On the 8th inst. a detachment of about sixteen hundred men, under the command of general Thomson, left the mouth of Nicolette, in order to surprise the enemy at Three-Rivers. The design was to have attacked the town before day, but some unforeseen accidents retarded him, so that it was quite light before he got near the town. An advanced boat discovered the party on their march, gave the alarm, and was fired on by the riflemen, who drove her off into the stream. This happened a little before sunrise; and as all prospect of succeeding by surprise was then over, the general determined to make the attack, ordered the drums to beat, to put the best face upon the matter, and intimidate the enemy. In this manner the march continued till they came within the reach of the vessels, some of which were anchoring along the shore for about a mile, or a mile and a-half above the town, when a brisk cannonade began from them, but without effect, occasioning the least disorder among the troops, who bore it with as good a countenance as the best veterans in the world could have done. Colonel Maxwell who led the first division, seeing however that in proceeding by the road he would be exposed to a very galling fire from all the vessels, seventeen in number, turned a little to the left, in order to cross what appeared to be a point of woods, and by which it seemed as if he could gain the height of the town, where the firing from the vessels would be ineffectual. This point turned out to be a very thick swamp of great extent, and when took up three hours or more to get through, every step to the knee, and very often a great deal higher. This was very unfavorable to us, for it was impossible for men to march through it without being broken, and a good deal of confusion. And as the enemy were ready for us at the farther side, there was neither time nor ground to form them properly. The consequence was, as you may judge, that we had the worst of it.

The general's original plan was to have attacked before day at four separate places; two attacks by the opposite ends of the main street, and two attacks by the cross-street; each division consisting of three hundred men. A reserve of two hundred and fifty was to remain ready for the support of any of the others. I am almost persuaded, that had we arrived in time to have put this in execution, it would have succeeded, notwithstanding the great superiority of the enemy in point of numbers; but the morning and the swamp, as I told you before, broke in upon this plan. No new one was formed, nor indeed had the general it in his power to form one, for one of the divisions was separated from the rest in passing the swamp, nor did the general know where they were till the firing began from them. All he could then do was to order them to be supported. This was done for some time with effect, the enemy having broke and given way for some distance; but being supported in their turn, they drove our people back, who bore, in a soldier like manner, a very heavy fire from the musquetry and two pieces of field artillery, sometimes loaded with grape and sometimes with round shot. We were, however, after repeated attacks, obliged to give way, the enemy scarcely pursuing us.

"Our loss is inconsiderable as to numbers. But, alas! not so as to men, general Thomson being among the prisoners. Though we had the worst of it, I hope we have made some impression on the minds of our enemies. They allow we behaved well; and it will not tell amiss that twelve hundred Americans attacked, under every disadvantage, four thousand British troops, obliged them at first to give way, and, when beat back, made a retreat of forty-five miles with the loss of about one hundred and fifty men."

Extract of a letter from St. Eustatia, dated June 13, 1776.

"In a Bristol paper of May 4th, it is said the foreign troops were ordered to sail with the fleet, and that lord Howe took leave of, and set out from court on the second of May, to take the command. It is still uncertain about the commissioners, but on the 13th of April it was said commissions were making out to appoint five. Lord and gen. Howe, and M. Cornwallis, were three of them, the other two uncertain; but some said they were to be governor Pownall and one Mr. Mills; they are to receive your submissions, and grant pardons, but not till you have laid down your arms. About five hundred vessels are to carry the sword and olive-branch, with a great number of flat-bottomed boats, nine thousand waggons, twenty-seven hundred horses, and from thirty to fifty thousand men; the number appears still uncertain, but no doubt their numbers are great, by all which it is to be supposed great ceremony is to be used on this most solemn occasion. Burgoyne is to command at Quebec, Howe at York, and Clinton to the southward; lord Howe to command the whole. The Queen has brought another princess to the nation. The duchess of Kingston has had her trial, and was found guilty, but pleaded the benefit of clergy and got off; she is since flown over to France, to avoid a writ of *ne exeat regno*."

A letter from New-York of the 8th instant, mentions seven deserters arriving there from the fleet, who informed that the ships were badly manned, except the admiral, and that the men on board were very sickly.



THIS day PATRICK HENRY Esq; was chosen governor of this country, and a committee appointed to acquaint him with the result; to which he returned the following answer to the convention.

To the honorable the president and house of convention.

GENTLEMEN

THE vote of this day, appointing me governor of this commonwealth, has been notified to me in the most polite and obliging manner, by George Mason, Henry Lee, Dudley Digges, John Blair, and Bartholomew Landridge, Esqs.

A sense of the high and unmerited honour conferred upon me by the convention fills my heart with gratitude, which I trust my whole life will manifest. I take this early opportunity to express my thanks, which I wish to convey to you gentlemen, in the strongest terms of renewed merit.

It is a reflection that the tyranny of the British king and parliament hath kindled a formidable war, now raging throughout this wide extended continent, and in the operations of which this commonwealth must bear its share; and that, from the events of this war, the suffering happens, or misery, of a great proportion of the human species will finally result; that, in order to preserve this commonwealth from anarchy, and its attendant ruin, and to give vigour to our councils, and energy to all our measures, government hath been necessarily flung and new modelled; that it is exposed to numerous hazards and perils in its infantine state; that it can never attain to maturity, or ripen into firmness, unless it is guarded by affectionate assiduity, and managed by great abilities; lament my want of talents; I am unequal to the duties of that important station to which I am called by favour of my fellow citizens, at this truly critical conjuncture. The errors of my conduct shall be atoned for, so far as I am able, by unwearied endeavours to secure the freedom and happiness of our common country.

I shall enter upon the duties of my office whenever you gentlemen shall be pleased to direct; relying upon the known wisdom and virtue of your honourable house to supply my defects, and to give permanency and success to that system of government which you have formed, and which is so wisely calculated to secure equal liberty, and advance human happiness.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen your most obedient,  
And very humble servant,

Williamsburg, June 29, 1776. P. HENRY, jun.

THE CONSTITUTION, or FORM of GOVERNMENT, agreed to and resolved upon by the delegates and representatives of the several counties and corporations of VIRGINIA.

WHEREAS George the third, king of Great-Britain and Ireland, and elector of Hanover, hitherto intrusted with the exercise of the king's office in this government, hath endeavoured to pervert the same into a detestable and inupportable tyranny, by putting his negative on laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good:

By denying his governors permission to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation for his assent, and, when suspended, neglecting to attend to them for many years.

By refusing to pass certain other laws, unless the persons to be benefited by them would relinquish the inestimable right of representation in the legislature.

By dissolving legislative assemblies frequently, and continually, for opposing with many firmness, his invasions of the rights of the people.

When dissolved, by refusing to call others for a long space of time, thereby leaving the political system without any legislative head.

By endeavouring to prevent the population of our country, and, for that purpose, obstructing the laws for the naturalization of foreigners.

By keeping among us, in times of peace, standing armies and ships of war.

By attempting to render the military independent of, and superior to, the civil power.

By committing with others to subject us to a foreign jurisdiction, giving his assent to their pretended acts of legislation.

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us.

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world.

For imposing taxes on us without our consent.

For depriving us of the benefits of trial by jury.

For transporting us beyond seas, to be tried for pretended offences.

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

By plundering our seas, ravaging our coasts, burning our towns, and destroying the lives of our people.

By inciting insurrections of our fellow-subjects with the allurements of forfeiture and confiscation.

By prompting our negroes to rise in arms among us, those very negroes whom, by an inhuman use of his negative, he hath retuled his permission to exclude by law.

By endeavouring to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions of existence.

By transporting, at this time, a large army of foreign mercenaries, to complete the work of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

By answering our repeated petitions for redress with a repetition of injuries.

And finally, by abolishing the helm of government, and declaring us out of his allegiance and protection.

By which several acts of violence, the government of this country, as formerly exercised under the crown of Great-Britain, is TOTALLY DISSOLVED.

We, therefore, the delegates and representatives of the good people of Virginia, having maturely considered the premises, and viewing with great concern the deplorable condition to which this once happy country must be reduced, unless some regular adequate mode of civil polity is speedily adopted, and, in compliance with a recommendation of the general congress, do ordain and declare the future form of government of Virginia to be as followeth.

The legislative, executive, and judiciary departments,

shall be separate and distinct, so that neither exercise the powers properly belonging to the other; nor shall any person exercise the powers of more than one of them at the same time, except that the justices of the county courts shall be eligible to either house of assembly.

The legislative shall be formed of two distinct branches who, together, shall be a complete legislature. They shall meet once, or oftener, every year, and shall be called the GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.

One of these shall be called the HOUSE OF DELEGATES, and consist of two representatives to be chosen for each county, and for the district of West Augusta, annually, of such men as actually reside in and are freeholders of the same, or duly qualified according to law, and also of one delegate or representative to be chosen annually for the city of Williamsburg, and one for the borough of Norfolk, and a representative for each of such other cities and boroughs as may hereafter be allowed particular representation by the legislature; but when any city or borough shall so decide as that the number of persons having right of suffrage therein shall have been, for the space of seven years successively, less than half the number of voters in some one county in Virginia, such city or borough thenceforward shall cease to send a delegate or representative to the assembly.

The other shall be called the SENATE, and consist of twenty-four members, of whom thirteen shall constitute a house to proceed on business, for whole election the different counties shall be divided into twenty-four districts, and each county of the respective district, at the time of the election of its delegates, shall vote for one senator, who is actually a resident and freeholder within the district or duly qualified according to law, and is upwards of twenty-five years of age; and the sheriffs of each county, within five days at farthest after the last county election in the district shall meet at some convenient place, and from the poll taken in their respective counties return as a senator the man who shall have the greatest number of votes in the whole district. To keep up this assembly by rotation, the districts shall be equally divided into four classes, and numbered by lot at the end of one year after the general election, the six members elected by the first division shall be displaced, and the vacancies thereby occasioned supplied from such class or division, by new election, in the manner aforesaid. This rotation shall be applied to each division, according to its number, and continued in due order annually.

The right of suffrage in the election of members for both houses shall remain as exercised at present, and each house shall choose its own speaker, appoint its own officers, settle its own rules of proceeding, and direct writs of election for supplying intermediate vacancies.

(To be concluded in our next.)

## ANNAPOLIS, July 18.

A LETTER from Williamsburg, July 13, 1776.

By EXPRESS.

AS the enemy's fleet has been driven from their station, and their forces obliged to abandon Gwyn's island, and we are informed they will endeavour to possess themselves of some place on the Eastern shore of Maryland, we have thought it prudent to give you the earliest intimation thereof: A battery of two 24 pounders played on their ships, and in a few rounds forced them to retire: Four pounders silenced their batteries, raked their camp, and threw them into the greatest confusion, on which our men, as soon as boats could be procured, passed over to the island, which the enemy abandoned with precipitation, carrying with them all their cannon, except one; two of their tenders fell into our hands; the ship Dunmore was so much damaged that, it is said, she was burnt the night after the cannonade; they were obliged to destroy two other vessels. We congratulate you on the success of the American arms in South-Carolina. By this express you will be fully informed of Sir Peter Parker's repulse.

Extra of a letter from South-Carolina, July 3, 1776.

By EXPRESS.

Narrative by Thomas Bennet, of Col. Darnison's Massachusetts regiment—Daniel Hawkins, of Boston—Robert Scot and Edmund Alston of New-Hampshire—and James Scot, of Virginia, deserters from the fleet which attacked and were beaten off by the brave garrison in Fort Sullivan, under the command of col. Moultrie, on Friday the 28th of June, 1776.—They are all Americans, and had been taken by the enemy at sea; Bennet, Hawkins, and Scot, in the ship Sally; Hamilton and Alston, in the brigantine Friendship.

The Bristol of 50 guns, commanded by Sir Peter Parker, is greatly damaged in her hull, large knees and timbers shot through and smashed. If the water had not been very smooth, it would have been impossible to have kept her from sinking—all the carpenters in the fleet had been called to her assistance. mizen-mast shot away, main-mast badly wounded by three several shot, fore-mast by two; rigging, sails and yard much damaged. The captain of the commodore-lost his left arm above the elbow; he was sent yesterday, Jun. 30, to England in a brig. The commodore's breeches torn off; his backside laid bare; his thigh and knee wounded; walks only when supported by two men. 44 men killed, 30 wounded among whom were many midshipmen and petty officers; 20 of the wounded dead since the action. It was talked in the fleet, that the two large ships would go over the bar again, and proceed to English Harbour in Antigua to be repaired. The Bristol, when lightened as much as possible, crawls 18 feet 7 inches water.

Experiment, of 50 guns on two decks, all twelve pounders; a slighter built vessel than the Bristol, exceedingly damaged in her hull; several ports beat in one; her mizen-mast hurt, but uncertain of particulars; killed 57, of whom the captain was one; wounded 30, several since dead; draws when lightest 17 feet water. The general opinion is, that neither of those large ships will goately over the bar again. Solebay, 28 guns, 2 men killed, 4 wounded; Ac-

tive, 28, lieutenant killed, 4 wounded; Acton, 28, Sphinx, 20, Siren, 28, all got aground, the first in coming up, the two latter in running away. The Sphinx cut away her bowsprit; the Siren got off. The Acton, by the assistance of a friendly English seaman, remained fast, burnt and blown up by her own people. While she was on fire, Mr. Millegan, one of our marine officers, and a party of men, boarded her, brought off her colours, the ship's bell, and as many sails and stores as three boats could contain. The Thunder bomb lay at a considerable distance, throwing shells at the fort, and by over-charging had shattered the beds and damaged the ship so much as to render it necessary for her to go into dock before she can act again. The Friendship, a hired armed vessel of 26 guns of various sizes, covered the bomb, as did the Siren, who also fired very briskly at the fort ricochet shot. The whole fleet badly manned and lickly, particularly the Siren's crew, at two-thirds short allowance of provisions and water. They have had no fresh provisions since their arrival the first of June.

Lord William Campbell had been very anxious for the attack, and proposed taking all the forts with only the Siren and Solebay. Lord Cornwallis has the chief command of the land forces; he and general Clinton are both ashore with the troops at Long Island. His lordship had some time ago urged Sir Peter Parker to attack on the sea side, otherwise he would march up, attack and take the fort, and compel Sir Peter's tardiness; the commodore replied, Lord Cornwallis might march his troops when he pleased, but the fleet required a fair wind; the first that happened he would proceed against the fort. The general at that time believed we had no troops out of garrison; but he was soon better informed, being since repulsed and drove back with loss. He remained quiet and left the commodore to enjoy the glory of being defeated alone. This must be a mistake from Lord Cornwallis's having had the command when the fleet left Ireland. The negro pilot Sampson, who is exceedingly careful, was on board the commodore, and put down with the doctors out of harm's way. When the fleet sailed from Ireland the number of troops was about 4000, but 11 transports had separated from the rest and not since been heard of.

The former deserters from on board the Ranger sloop, who had seen all the land forces, said the amount was from 1300 to 2000 at most. Between 9 and 10 o'clock the Acton, the commodore, and other ships, began to steal away. They made no piping, nor waited to heave up their anchors, but slipped their cables. The commodore has only one anchor and cable left. About 2 o'clock on Friday, when the fort was waiting for a supply of powder, some of the men of war's men mistaking the unavoidable silence for surrender, cried out the Yankees had done fighting; others replied, by God we are glad of it, for we never had such a drubbing in our lives; we had been told the Yankees would not stand two fires, but we never saw better fellows. All the common men in the fleet spoke loudly in praise of the garrison. Brave fine fellows. The seamen in general are desirous of getting on shore to join the Americans. One McNeal, a deserter from col. Gadsden's regiment, had informed the commodore, that before he left Fort Mifflin he had spiked up all the cannon, and that the fort might be easily taken.

A report in the fleet, that no quarter would be given to the Americans, and that £. 5000 had been offered for general Lee.

## TO THE PEOPLE OF MARYLAND.

YOU are now with your consent, by the unanimous vote of America, declared a free and independent state. It is your duty, it is your interest to adopt the most effectual measures to carry this declaration into execution. The important day approaches on which you are to exercise the greatest characteristic of freemen. On the first day of August, you are to elect delegates to frame a government under which you and your posterity are to enjoy the inestimable blessings of liberty, or to suffer the complicated miseries of slavery. How sacred the trust! the most honourable, the most important a people can bestow.—You are bound in duty to your God, your country, and your posterity, to exercise this right, with honour, courage, wisdom, and integrity. When called to give your voice, examine with impartiality the pretensions of each candidate; reflect upon the qualifications he ought to possess, and remember that on a single vote may depend the happiness or misery of millions.—One voice may make a majority for the candidate, his vote may elect the deputy to Congress, whose opinion may determine the councils of America. Reason and judgment alone should influence your choice. Private friendship personal attachment should be discarded; all prejudices quarrels and animosities should cease. The strictest probity, a manly firmness of mind, an inflexibility of temper, an obstinate persevering resolution, and an undoubted attachment to America and her present measure are essentials; no man of whom the least doubt can be justly entertained as to either, is worthy of your confidence. Permit me to say that you have been too inattentive, too careless in the choice of your delegates. Instances may be given where you have elected men who never manifested themselves friends to liberty. The supporters of the proprietary government in acts of oppression; the favourers of the proclamation to tax you without your consent; the open opposers of the measures of America; persons who have broke the association; and strangers (who have since discovered their inimical principles) have been deemed worthy of a seat in your Conventions. A few questions will readily discover the merit of the candidate. Is he a man of integrity and courage? his general character will gratify the enquiry. Is he a warm friend to the liberties and independency of America, and a zealous advocate for the present measures adopted by the Congress? to resolve this question, take a view of the whole tenor of his conduct in life. Consider his connections. In the struggles for the rights of the people, and the clergy in their conduct, whether he is opposed or justified in establishing the place of profit upon his principles as reflect on his conduct, that he is you can trust him. I have already mentioned an exceptionable conduct. A very in our public meetings have been individually, and the greifs have been with your directions, and reduced the change. to concur in a decision. The policy of some, and others before, declaration and the sense made at the last of the people at the of taxables was to retain the number of The principle was ed, and yet the place, and to pacify the taxables, 75,000 taxables, or 200,000, on the east two thirds of the have 44, and one Is this an equal done to the larger now adopted. supported by real against the supposed of men.—The government cannot may reasonably enter of less consequence not be obtained. learned Dr. Price, felt degree, can every member is or of being chosen becomes numerous a diminution of state, all the individuals to an immediate legislation and government these powers by a tentatives. In this be still free or left so in proportion as represented." The to a fair and equal and equal representation as far as this is from the principle oppressive. It was thing more on this den, and if every reasoning would be refused an equal at the next Convention be established with government: the from the people out to be instructed by In my first paper man to power, and trusting it long in that your Convention an abuse of power one half of the Co each succeeding ed, that they conduct in No gance of it at No state can long variable adherence alt Convention, at ate Council of Safe leave to enquire why this repeated their resolutions to themselves; I am continuing the far generation. If the one branch, a qu branches shall be it may be proper of: they should el had a governor for rates should be ele to them, that they your confidence I the first officers I e given to themse remains with you ower; be caution very man to act now what he doe in government all knowledge of buld. The pra our disapprobatio The writers of t reasons which tics of the nation seems it criminal

A about 50 out of 100 in our militia



dust in life. Consider his education, his attachments and connections. Enquire what has been his conduct in the struggles between the proprietary, his upper house, and the people; whether he took the part of the clergy in their contest for the 40 per poll; whether he opposed or justified the proclamation for regulating and establishing the fees of office; whether he holds any place of profit under the old government? examine his principles as to the dispute with Great Britain; reflect on his conduct at the time of the stamp act; trace his behaviour from that period to the present time. Ask whether he supported the commercial system of opposition, contributed to the purchase of arms, subscribed the association, or enrolled in the militia? In short, consider seriously whether he has shewn an uniformity of conduct, that he is well affected to your cause, and that you can trust him, at this very alarming crisis, to support the measures of America and her independency.

I have already communicated what I esteemed very exceptionable conduct in your December and May Conventions. A very considerable change has been made in our public measures by the last Convention. The debates have been public, the members have voted individually, and the instructions to the deputies in Congress have been withdrawn; but I am inclined to think your directions, and not an alteration of sentiment, produced the change. The vote to authorise your deputies to concur in a declaration of independence appears as unanimous. The necessity of the case, and not the justice or policy of the measure, obtained the assent of some, and others agreed to the vote, who, a few minutes before, declared it was against their private opinion and the sense of their county. An attempt was made at the last to obtain a fair and equal representation of the people at the next Convention, and the number of taxables was proposed as the rule, by which to ascertain the number of delegates each county should elect. The principle was admitted, no better rule was proposed, and yet the motion failed. A compromise took place, and to pacify some counties, an increase of representatives was given. Suppose the colony to contain 75,000 taxables, or 300,000 souls, of which 50,000 taxables, or 200,000 souls, live on the western, and the residue on the eastern shore. By the present regulation two thirds of the taxables or souls, in the colony, will have 44, and one third will have 32, representatives. Is this an equal and fair representation? The injustice done to the larger counties is not obvious by the mode now adopted. The opinion of an individual, however supported by reason, justice and policy, will not avail against the supposed interests, or the passions and prejudices of men. When the first great principles of a free government cannot be secured to the people, a man may reasonably entertain fears and suspicions, that matters of less consequence, though essential to liberty, will not be obtained. It is observed, by the ingenious and learned Dr. Price, "that civil liberty, in its most perfect degree, can only be enjoyed in small states, where every member is capable of giving his suffrage in person, or of being chosen into public office. When a state becomes numerous or extensive it is impracticable, and a diminution of liberty necessarily ensues. In a great state, all the individuals that compose it cannot be admitted to an immediate participation in the powers of legislation and government, yet they may participate in these powers by a delegation of them to a body of representatives. In this case it is evident that the state will be still free or self governed; and that it will be more or less so in proportion as it is more or less fairly and adequately represented." The same gentleman remarks, "in order to a fair and equal government, there ought to be a fair and equal representation of all that are governed; and as far as this is wanting in any government, it deviates from the principles of liberty, and becomes unjust and oppressive." It would be a waste of time to add anything more on this subject. The proposition is self evident, and if every reader is not convinced, all further reasoning would be in vain. The same delegates that refused an equal representation at the last Convention will deny it at the next Convention, and our new constitution will be established without the first vital principle of a free government: the gentlemen who withhold this right from the people ought not to be elected, or they ought to be instructed by their constituents.

In my first paper I remarked the natural propensity of man to power, and the impropriety and danger of entrusting it long in the same hands. I informed you, that your Convention in July resolved that, to prevent an abuse of power from a continuance in the same hands, one half of the Council of Safety should be left out at each succeeding Convention. You have been acquainted, that they observed the resolve as the rule of their conduct in December, and broke it at their May session. No gentleman was given for the strict observance of it at that time, a palpable breach at another. No state can long continue free without a steady and inviolable adherence to such a rule of conduct. At the last Convention, all the gentlemen (except one) of the late Council of Safety, were continued in power. I beg leave to enquire of the members of that Convention, why this repeated breach of their own resolves? Are their resolutions to be binding on all the community but themselves? I am the more alarmed at the conduct of continuing the same men in authority, in this consideration. If the legislative should be continued in one branch, a question will arise, from whom the other branches shall be chosen, and for what length of time. It may be proper that the delegates should elect: suppose they should establish two other branches, a council and a governor for life. I am afraid if the present delegates should be elected, and your sentiments not known to them, that they will establish men in power, in whom your confidence will not be placed. In the choice of the first officers I have reason to believe a preference will be given to themselves, their friends and friends. It remains with you to prevent any improper use of your power; be cautious whom you trust, and strictly enjoin every man to act in such a manner, as that you may know what he does, and whom he nominates to the offices in government. The election by ballot precludes all knowledge of the voter, and if not abolished may be abused. The practice will continue unless you express your disapprobation.

The writer of this paper will make no apology for the reason which he has lately addressed you, the liberties of this country are in imminent danger, he seems it criminal to be silent; he has no friends, no relatives to serve; no private interests to promote. He disdains to temporize, he comes to train with any party. This paper is an evidence of the truth of this assertion. He wishes not to survive the liberties of America.

If proud oppression brings him to the grave,  
And marks him dead, it ne'er shall mark a slave.

AN AMERICAN.

We are informed, that the following instructions were drawn up by the committee appointed by the federal convention of militia of Anne Arundel county, and afterwards signed by a great number of the inhabitants of the county, and in consequence thereof presented in the late Convention.

TO CHARLES CARROLL, barrister, SAMUEL CHASE, THOMAS JOHNSON, WILLIAM PACA, and HARLES CARROLL, of Carrollton, Esquires, delegates in Convention for Anne Arundel county.

Gentlemen,

WE, the freemen of Anne Arundel county, taking into serious consideration the present alarming situation of this province, have determined to exercise our unquestionable right of instructing our delegates in Convention: no apology is necessary; neither is any, we presume, expected from us: from the very nature of the trust, and the subsisting between constituent and representative, the former is entitled to express his sentiments and to instruct the latter upon all points that may come under his consideration as representative. We therefore instruct you as follows:

1st. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution in Convention, that the instructions given by the Convention in December last, and renewed by the May Convention, to the deputies of this province in Congress, be rescinded, and the restrictions therein contained removed.

2dly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution in Convention, that this province be united with the other twelve colonies represented in Congress, and that the deputies of this colony be authorized and directed to concur with the other united colonies, or a majority of them, in Congress, in declaring the United Colonies free and independent states, and in forming such further compact and confederation between them, in making foreign alliances, and in adopting such other measures as shall be adjudged necessary for securing the liberties of America, provided the sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal government and police of this province be reserved to the people thereof.

3dly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that the exercise of every kind of authority under the crown of Great Britain be now totally suppressed, and that a government be formed for this province under the authority of the people only.

4thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that a government for this province ought not to be formed and carried into execution by this present Convention.

5thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that a full and equal representation of the people be appointed, and a new Convention be immediately elected, with powers to form and establish a new government; which Convention to continue until the last day of December next, and such government to be subject to such alterations and amendments as the people may judge necessary.

6thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that a Council of Safety be appointed to exist during the intermediate time between the dissolution of the present and the meeting of the next Convention, and also deputies to represent this province in Congress.

7thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that all public and private interest of monies cease and determine during this time of general distress, such monies only to be excepted as have been actually lent within the three last months, which shall be proved by the lender to have been lent within the time aforesaid, to the satisfaction of such persons as shall be appointed to determine the same, and that country produce be a lawful tender for the interest of the same, at the market price, to be regulated by two unexceptionable freeholders upon oath, one to be appointed by each party.

8thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that the monies appropriated by act of assembly for opening, clearing, and straightening the roads in this county, be immediately applied to the payment of the public charge of this county.

9thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that all rents may be paid, and shall be received, in country produce, at the same rates which such commodities bore at the time such contract was made or renewed; and the same to be set by the committees of observation, and other persons are appointed.

10thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that no person be allowed to bring fire arms, or any other weapons offensive or defensive, to the ensuing election of delegates in Convention.

for this province, to be laid before the people of this county for their consideration. Whereupon the following form of government was approved of by a majority of the committee, ordered to be published, and laid before the people of this county.

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A FORM OF GOVERNMENT proposed for the consideration of the people of ANNE ARUNDEL county.

The right to legislate is in every member of the community: But, for the sake of convenience, the exercise of such right must be delegated to certain persons, to be chosen by the people. When this choice is free, it is the people's fault if they are not happy.

I hat the legislative may be so constituted as never to be able to form an interest of its own, separate from the interest of the community at large, it is necessary its branches should be independent of, and balance each other, and all dependent on the people.

That there be chosen by the people a lower house, and that there be chosen by the people an upper house, these two bodies to form the legislative power.

It is essential to liberty, that the legislative, judicial, and executive powers of government be separate from each other; for where they are united in the same person, or number of persons, there would be wanting that mutual check, which is the principal security against the arbitrary laws; and a wanton exercise of power.

That there be a council of seven persons, appointed by the joint ballot of the two houses of legislature, from their bodies to hold the executive power.

3. That these several bodies, legislative and executive, hold their powers for one year; as annual elections are most friendly to liberty, and the oftener power reverts to the people, the greater will be the security for a faithful discharge of it.

4. That the vacancies created in either house of legislature, by the appointment of the council aforesaid, be filled up by the people of such counties where such persons were sent from, that there may be always a full representation of the people in both houses of legislature.

5. That the judges of a provincial court, be annually appointed by the joint ballot of the two houses; also a clerk for the judicial office (having no secretary for that office as heretofore) with reasonable fees for their respective services.

6. That commissioners, clerk of loan office, attorney general, treasurer, surveyor for land office, judge, marshal and clerk for court of admiralty, be annually appointed by the joint ballot of the two houses of legislature.

7. That justices of the peace, sheriffs, clerks of counties, and surveyors, be annually chosen by the people of each county.

8. That the chancery business be done by the respective county courts, subject to an appeal to the council, who shall have power finally to determine on such appeal. The official business to be done by the respective clerks of each court, with reasonable fees for their respective services.

9. That there be annually chosen, by the people of each county, a person to serve as a register of wills, granting letters of administration, &c. and that the business heretofore done by the commissary of this province, be done by the county courts, with an appeal to the council, with reasonable fees for their respective services.

10. That no fees be allowed to be taken agreeable to the old table, but that a new and equitable table of fees be established.

11. That the trial by jury be held and kept sacred, also the habeas corpus preserved.

12. That no person shall be eligible to sit in either house of legislature, or council, or congress, who holds any office of profit, or any pension, or receives any profit, or any part of the profit thereof, directly or indirectly, or who holds any office in the regular military service, or marine service, either continental or provincial.

13. That all officers of the regular or marine service be appointed by the joint ballot of both houses of legislature.

14. That the present resolves of the conventions of this province, restricting suits at law, stand and remain during this time of public calamity.

15. That no standing armies be kept up only in time of war.

16. That a well regulated militia be established in this province, as being the best security for the preservation of the lives, liberties and properties of the people.

17. That every militia company chuse its own officers, battalions their field officers, and the district battalions their brigadier-generals.

18. That adjutants, drummers and fifers, with drums and fifes, and cartouch-boxes, be provided at the public expence, for the different battalions of militia; and guns for such unarmed men who are not allowed purchase the same. And that the colours of each battalion be empowered to contract for the above, and procure the same, and draw on the treasurer for the amount.

19. That a congress be appointed annually, and composed of members of each colony, to convene at any place they may agree on, as occasion may require; to have power to adjust disputes between colonies, regulate the affairs of trade, war, peace, alliances, &c. reserving to the people of each colony the right of regulating the internal government, and police thereof. That there be seven deputies appointed by the joint ballot of the two houses of legislature of this province, for congress annually, out of their bodies; and that the vacancies created in either house, by such appointment, be forthwith filled up, by election, by the people of such counties where such members were sent from. That there may be always a full representation of the people in assembly as well as in congress. The continuance of such persons in assembly, or in public business requires their continual attendance in congress, would be nugatory, and leave only as a mark of respect, which could not compensate for the injury done the public, by their absence from either station.

20. That all the votes and proceedings of the assembly be published, except such parts as relate to military operations, and measures taken to procure arms and ammunition, and that they sit open, except when particular business requires their being private. That the votes and proceedings of congress be published, except as aforesaid.

21. That an oath be taken by every person who shall hold an office of profit or trust, to lead true be

Anne Arundel county, June 26, 1776.

AT a meeting of the deputies of the district battalions of militia of this county in congress, at the house of Mr. John Ball, in the city of Annapolis, It was proposed, that the following do pass as a resolve of this committee:—That this committee do proceed to draw up a sketch of a form of government for this province, to be laid before the people of this county, for their consideration. A question was put on the passage of the same, and determined in the affirmative.

For the affirmative:—Edward Gaither, Thomas Tillard, A. Warfield, James L. Williams, Samuel Field, Vachel Gaither, Thomas Harwood, Edward Cromwell, Thomas Mayo, Andrew Ellicott, Rezin Hammond, Matthias Hammond.

The following gentlemen declined voting on the above, conceiving that they had no power from their constituents for that purpose:—Thomas Dorley, John Dorley, E. Howard, Benj. Galloway, John Dorley, son of Michael, Samuel Garrison, jun. John Thomas, Joseph Ellicott, Richard Stringer, Michael Pae.

The committee then adjourned until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

June 27, 1776.

Committee met according to adjournment.—The committee proceeded to take up the resolve of yesterday, respecting the drawing up a form of government

About 50 out of 80 of the present Convention are field officers in our militia.







## Constitution and form of government of Virginia concluded.

**A**LL laws shall originate in the house of delegates, to be approved or rejected by the senate, or to be amended with the consent of the house of delegates; except money bills, which in no instance shall be altered by the senate, but wholly approved or rejected.

A governor, or chief magistrate, shall be chosen annually, by joint ballot of both houses, to be taken in each house respectively, deposited in the conference room, the boxes examined jointly by a committee of each house, and the numbers severally reported to them, that the appointments may be entered (which shall be the mode of taking the joint ballot of both houses in all cases) who shall not continue in that office longer than three years successively nor be eligible until the expiration of four years after he shall have been out of that office. An adequate, but moderate salary, shall be settled upon him during his continuance in office; and he shall, with the advice of a council of state, exercise the executive powers of government according to the laws of this commonwealth; and shall not, under any pretence, exercise any power or prerogative by virtue of any law, statute or custom, of England: But he shall, with the advice of the council of state, have the power of granting reprieves or pardons, except where the prosecution shall have been carried on by the house of delegates, or the law shall otherwise particularly direct; in which cases no reprieve or pardon shall be granted, but by resolve of the house of delegates.

Either house of the general assembly may adjourn themselves respectively. The governor shall not prorogue or adjourn the assembly during their sitting, nor dissolve them at any time; but he shall, if necessary, either by advice of the council of state, or on application of a majority of the house of delegates, call them before the time to which they shall stand prorogued or adjourned.

A privy council, or council of state, consisting of eight members shall be chosen by joint ballot of both houses of assembly, either from their own members or the people at large, to assist in the administration of government. They shall annually choose out of their own members a president, who, in case of the death, inability, or necessary absence of the governor from the government, shall act as lieutenant-governor. Four members shall be sufficient to act, and their advice and proceedings shall be entered on record, and signed by the members present (to any part whereof any member may enter his dissent) to be laid before the general assembly, when called for by them. His council may appoint their own clerk, who shall have a salary settled by law, and take an oath or secrecy in such matters as he shall be directed by the board to conceal. A sum of money appropriated to that purpose shall be divided annually among the members, in proportion to their attendance; and they shall be incapable, during their continuance in office, of sitting in either house of assembly. Two members shall be removed by joint ballot of both houses of assembly at the end of every three years, and be ineligible for the three next years. The vacancies as well as those occasioned by death or incapacity, shall be supplied by new elections, in the same manner.

The delegates for Virginia to the continental congress shall be chosen annually, or superadded in the mean time by joint ballot of both houses of assembly.

The present militia officers shall be continued, and vacancies supplied by appointment of the governor with the advice of the privy council, on recommendations from the respective county courts; but the governor and council shall have a power of suspending any officer, and ordering a court-martial on complaint of misbehaviour or inability, or to supply vacancies of officers happening when in actual service. The governor may embody the militia, with the advice of the privy council; and, when embodied, shall alone have the direction of the militia under the laws of the country.

The two houses of assembly shall, by joint ballot, appoint judges of the supreme court of appeals, and general court, judges in chancery, judges of admiralty, secretary, and the attorney general, to be commissioned by the governor, and continue in office during good behaviour. In case of death, incapacity, or resignation, the governor, with the advice of the privy council, shall appoint persons to succeed in office, to be approved or displaced by both houses. These officers shall have fixed and adequate salaries, and, together with all others holding lucrative offices, and all ministers of the gospel of every denomination, be incapable of being elected members of either house of assembly, or the privy council.

The governor, with the advice of the privy council, shall appoint justices of the peace for the counties; and in case of vacancies, or a necessity of increasing the number hereafter, such appointments to be made upon the recommendation of the respective county courts. The present acting secretary in Virginia, and clerks of all the county courts, shall continue in office. In case of vacancies, either by death, incapacity, or resignation, a secretary shall be appointed as before directed, and the clerks by the respective courts. The present and future clerks shall hold their offices during good behaviour, to be judged of and determined in the general court. The sheriffs and coroners shall be nominated by the respective courts, approved by the governor with the advice of the privy council, and commissioned by the governor. The justices shall appoint constables, and all fees of the aforesaid officers be regulated by law.

The governor, when he is out of office, and others acting against the state, either by mal-administration, or other means, by which the safety of the

state may be endangered, shall be impeachable by the house of delegates. Such impeachment to be prosecuted by the attorney general, or such other person or persons as the house may appoint, in the general court, according to the laws of the land. If found guilty, he or they shall be either for ever disabled to hold any office under government, or removed from such office *pro tempore*, or subjected to such pains or penalties as the law shall direct.

If all, or any of the judges of the general court, should, on good grounds (to be judged of by the house of delegates) be accused of any of the crimes or offences before-mentioned, such house of delegates may in like manner impeach the judge or judges so accused, to be prosecuted in the court of appeals; and he or they, if found guilty, shall be punished in the same manner as is prescribed in the preceding clause.

Commissions and grants shall run, *In the name of the commonwealth of Virginia*, and bear test by the governor with the seal of the commonwealth annexed. Writs shall run in the same manner, and bear test by the clerks of the several courts. Indictments shall conclude *Against the peace and dignity of the commonwealth*.

A treasurer shall be appointed annually, by joint ballot of both houses.

All escheats, penalties, and forfeitures, heretofore going to the king, shall go to the commonwealth, save only such as the legislature may abolish, or otherwise provide for.

The territories contained within the charters erecting the colonies of Maryland, Pennsylvania, North and South Carolina, are hereby ceded, released, and for ever confirmed to the people of those colonies respectively, with all the rights of property, jurisdiction, and government, and all other rights whatsoever which might at any time heretofore have been claimed by Virginia, except the free navigation and use of the rivers Patowmack and Potomack, with the property of the Virginia shores or strands bordering on either of the said rivers, and all improvements which have been or shall be made thereon. The western and northern extent of Virginia shall in all other respects stand as fixed by the charter of King James the first, in the year 1609, and by the public treaty of peace between the courts of Great-Britain and France in the year 1763; unless, by act of this legislature, one or more territories shall hereafter be laid off, and governments established westward of the Allegheny mountains. And no purchases of lands shall be made of the Indian natives but on behalf of the public, by authority of the general assembly.

In order to introduce this government, the representatives of the people met in convention shall choose a governor and privy council, also such other officers directed to be chosen by both houses as may be judged necessary to be immediately appointed. The senate to be first chosen by the people, to continue until the last day of March next, and the other officers until the end of the succeeding session of assembly. In case of vacancies, the speaker of either house shall issue writs for new elections.

*The following are the appointments under the above plan of government.*

Patrick Henry, jun. Esq; governor.

John Page, Dudley Digges, John Tayloe, John Blair, Benjamin Harrison of Berkeley, Bartholomew Dandridge, Charles Carter of Shirley, and Benjamin Harrison of Brandon, counsellors of state.

Thomas Whiting, John Hutchings, Champion Travis, Thomas Newton, jun. and George Webb, Esqrs. commissioners of admiralty.

Edmund Randolph, Esq; attorney-general.

Thomas Everard and James Cocke, Esqrs. commissioners for settling accounts.

GOD save the COMMONWEALTH.

## BOSTON, July 6.

We learn from Halifax, by a person who left that place this day three weeks, that the troops general Howe left there were supposed to be about 1500, mostly marines, and the regiment of light-horse (which lately were wantonly turned in a house of GOD in this town) was at Windsor, waiting for general Howe to get foot-hold at New-York, when they were to follow, and march, (or gallop) through this continent; that they were busily employed in fortifying Citadelle-hill and other places, being under apprehension of an attack; that brigadier Ruggles and son from Hardwick, William Lyng, formerly high-sheriff, John Hicks, and John Howe, printers were gone volunteers with gen. Howe, and a number of others, which our informant could not recollect.

We also learn from Halifax, That when the New-York Tories arrived there, they applied to general Howe for subsistence; but were informed, That unless they took up arms in defence of government, they could have no relief, when some of them voluntarily entered the service, and others, through necessity, were obliged to; and that the fourth day after their enlistment, they, together with the Boston Tories, were ordered to dig in the coal mines at Nova Scotia, where we hope they may remain during life.—A proper shelter for all the Tories in America.

## NEWPORT, June 24.

Capt. Campbell, lately from Antigua, via St. Fustatia, informs, that a little before he left Antigua, a vessel from Georgia, belonging to Mr. Samuel Brenton of this place, was seized there by a man of war, with all her cargo, consisting of lumber, indigo &c. Mr. Brenton, then present, urged his being a friend to govern-

ment as a reason for his being favoured; but the admiral told him the act of parliament by which he was seized, made no provision for friends to government! He then pleaded the same to the Marshal for being indulged in buying the indigo at a moderate price; but the marshal said it was difficult to determine who were friends to government, or to that purport, and that he should buy the indigo himself to ship to England.—Just so would all American Tories fare, should this country be conquered agreeable to their wishes. But be assured the sun, moon, and stars shall fall, the ocean cease to roll, and all nature change its course, before a few English, Scotch and German slaves shall conquer this vast continent.

## NEW-YORK, July 11.

On Monday last, a small party of our men were sent to drive off cattle from Bergen woods; their curiosity led them to march along Bergen shore, to view the regulars on Staten-Island. On seeing two of their officers riding along the road towards Elizabeth-town point, some of our men thought to scare them, and fired their pieces at them, over the river, nearly opposite Decker's ferry. About two minutes after, they thundered away incessantly for some time at our people, with their cannon, but did them no hurt, as they betook themselves to the woods; however they continued their fire with great fury for a considerable time, thinking, no doubt, that we had been intrenching there with a great force. It was no small diversion to our men to see them throwing away their powder and shot among the trees. They picked up some of the balls and brought them away with them.

Since our last several of the new raised regiments of Connecticut troops have arrived in town, and appear to be as fine a body of men as any engaged in the present grand struggle for liberty and independence. Among them the light dragoons, between five and six hundred, who came to town yesterday, and paraded on horseback through the city, made a noble and martial appearance; and as this corps is composed of the substantial yeomanry of a virtuous sister state, nothing could be more agreeable or animating to all true friends of their country. Some of these worthy soldiers assisted, in their present uniforms, at the first reduction of Louisburg, and their "Jank lean cheeks, and war worn coats," are viewed with more veneration by their honest countrymen than if they were glittering nabobs from India, or balthaws with *wine tails*.

On Wednesday last, the declaration of independence was read at the head of each brigade of the continental army, posted at and near New-York, and every where received with loud huzzas, and the utmost demonstrations of joy.

The same evening the equestrian statue of George III. which tory pride and folly raised in the year 1770 was by the sons of freedom laid prostrate in the dirt; the just desert of an ungrateful tyrant! The lead wherewith this monument was made is to be run into bullets to assimilate with the brain of our insatuated adversaries, who, to gain a pepper corn, have lost an empire.—*"Quos Deus vult perdere, prius dementat."*

July 15. Last Friday morning it was reported in town, that lord Howe was arrived at Sandy-Hook, with a large fleet from England; Between one and two o'clock P.M. two ships hove in sight and joined the fleet at the Watering-place; about an hour after a ship, supposed to be the Phoenix, of 44 guns, a frigate of 28, and three tenders, got under way at Staten-Island, and stood up for this city. The army soon took the alarm, and in a few minutes every man was at his station, well provided with all necessaries for a vigorous defence; but as soon as the ships came near Bedlow's Island, they inclined towards the Jersey shore, to avoid our batteries that then began to play upon them from every quarter on both sides of the river; and notwithstanding they must have received considerable damage, they stood their course up Hudson's river, firing several broadsides as they went along, without either killing or wounding any of our people, who on the occasion behaved with uncommon bravery. A strong southerly wind, and the tide of flood facilitated the ships getting above the batteries near the town, but we hear they were roughly handled about twelve miles up the river, from whence they have not yet attempted to return, but we hear laid at Tarry-Town, about 30 miles up the river, on Saturday evening.

Several shot went through different houses in the town; two into the house of Mr. Verdice Ellworth, at Powlis Hook; three into capt. Clarke's house, at Greenwich, one of them went through the front and lodged in a brick wall at the head of Mr. Clarke's bed, in her chamber, a second went through the house, and the third destroyed several trees before the door, and took its course into the woods.

A ball also struck the house of Mr. Daniel Phoenix, and from that took its course to the new dwelling of Mr. Christopher Smith, in the opposite side of the street.

Soon after these ships passed the town, a great number of salutation guns were heard in the fleet below which we are since told was on the arrival of lord Howe, with a few more ships.

On Friday afternoon a barge from the fleet appeared in our bay, with a white flag, which was there met by the general's barge with several gentlemen of the army on board. The flag was sent by lord Howe, with a letter to his excellency gen. Washington. But as the letter was improperly directed it was not received.

\* Lord G. says, in the house of commons, declared that a pepper-corn, in acknowledgment of Britain's right to tax America, was of more importance than millions without it.



Howe came over possessed of unlimited power, and was much concerned he had not arrived a few days sooner, which would have effected a reconciliation, &c. However it seems his unlimited power did not extend to the necessary preliminaries of a negotiation—namely, acknowledgment of the right of the persons, to whom he came, to treat with him.

In need the idea of coming over to propose a plan of reconciliation is, in every view, absurd and ridiculous: for, as the colonies never invaded the rights of Britain, and only defended their own, there was no occasion at all for negotiation. The moment Great Britain recoiled from her unjust claims the war was at an end.

Every pretence therefore of a negotiation was a proof that Great Britain persisted in her encroachments on the rights of the colonies, and was in itself an act of an hostile nature.

On Tuesday another flag from the fleet appeared, and was met as before, when a letter was again offered, but for the same reason as the former, rejected.

Capt. Johnston, in a small privateer from Boston, has taken and carried into Cape Anne, two ships, one of them a large three decker from Jamaica for London, with 400 heads of sugar, 200 puncheons of rum, 30 bags of cotton, and a large quantity of pimento, &c. with several ladies passengers. The other a ship from Antigua bound to Boston, with 490 puncheons of rum, &c.

Last Wednesday noon a sloop belonging to one of the regiments on Staten Island being in liquor, and having wandered from his companions, got upon the meadows near Elizabeth town point; which being observed by Col. Smith, who had the command that day at the point, he sent over a party of men who took him prisoner.

#### TRENTON, July 8.

The declaration of independence was this day proclaimed here, together with the new constitution of the colony of late established, and the resolve of the provincial congress for continuing the administration of justice during the interval.

The members of the provincial congress, the gentlemen of the committee, the officers and privates of the militia under arms, and a large concourse of the inhabitants attended on this great and solemn occasion. The declaration and other proceedings were received with loud acclamations.

The people are now convinced of what we ought long since to have known, that our enemies have left us no middle way between perfect freedom and abject slavery.

In the field, we hope, as well as in council, the inhabitants of New-Jersey will be found ever ready to support the freedom and independence of America.

#### PHILADELPHIA.

In CONGRESS, July 11, 1776.

The marine committee, in pursuance of the order of congress, reported that they have called before them divers of the interior officers belonging to the ships *Albatross* and *Conqueror*, and having heard their complaints against the captains Alton and Whipple, in their presence, are of opinion, that the charge against capt. Alton does not appear to be well founded, and that the charge against capt. Whipple amounts to nothing more than a rough and uncivil mode of behaviour to his marine officer. Whereupon resolved, that the marine committee be directed to order the captains Alton and Whipple to repair to their respective commands, and that it be recommended to capt. Whipple to cultivate harmony with the officers.

Extra from the minutes.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

By order of Congress,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

In CONGRESS, July 19, 1776.

Resolved, that a copy of the circular letters and of the declarations they enclosed from Lord Howe to Sir W. Franklin, Mr. Penn, Mr. Eden, Lord Dunmore, Mr. Martin, and Sir James Wright, late governors, sent to Amboy by a flag, and forwarded to congress, by general Wallington, be published in the several Gazettes, that the good people of these united States may be informed of what nature are the commissioners and what the terms, with the expectation of which the insidious court of Britain has endeavoured to amuse and disarm them; and that the few, who still remain suspended by a hope founded either in the justice or moderation of their late king, may now at length be convinced, that the valour alone of their country is to save its liberties.

Extra from the journals.

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

"EAGLE, off the coast of the province of Massachusetts-Bay, June 20, 1776.

"BEING appointed commander in chief of the ships and vessels of his majesty's fleet, employed in North-America, and having the honour to be by his majesty constituted one of his COMMISSIONERS for restoring peace to his colonies, and for granting pardons to such of his subjects therein as shall be duly solicitous to benefit by that effect of his gracious indulgence; I embrace this opportunity to inform you of my arrival on the American coast, where my first object will be an early meeting with general Howe, whom his majesty has been pleased to join with me in the said commission.

"In the mean time I have judged it expedient to issue the enclosed declaration, in order that all persons may have immediate information of his majesty's most gracious intentions: And I desire you will be pleased forthwith to cause the said declaration to be promulgated, in such manner, and at such places within the province of New-Jersey, as will render the same of the most public notoriety.

Allured of being favoured with your assistance in every measure for the speedy and effectual restoration of the public tranquillity, I am to request that you will communicate, from time to time, such information as you may think will facilitate the attainment of that important object in the province over which you preside.

I have the honour to be,

With great respect and consideration,

Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

HOWE.

flourishing peace to his majesty's colonies and plantations in North-America, &c. &c. &c.

#### DECLARATION.

WHEREAS By an act passed in the last session of parliament to prohibit all trade and intercourse with the colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower Counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, and for other purposes therein mentioned; it is enacted that "It shall and may be lawful to and for any person or persons, appointed and authorized by his majesty, to grant a pardon or pardons to any number or majesty, to declare any colony or province, colonies or name, to be at the peace of his majesty, and that "from and after the issuing of any such proclamation in any of the aforesaid colonies or provinces, or if his majesty should be graciously pleased to signify the same by his royal proclamation, then, from and after the issuing of such proclamation, the said act, with respect to such colony or province, colonies or provinces, county, town, port, district, or place, shall cease, determine, and be utterly void."

And WHEREAS the king, desirous to deliver all his subjects from the calamities of war, and other afflictions which they now undergo, and to restore the said colonies to his protection and peace, as soon as the constitutional authority of government therein may be re-established, hath been graciously pleased, by letters patent, under the great seal, dated the sixth day of May, in the sixteenth year of his majesty's reign, to nominate and appoint me, Richard Viscount Howe of the kingdom of Ireland, and William Howe, Esq; general of his forces in North-America, and each of us, jointly and severally, to be his majesty's commissioner and commissioners, for granting his free and general pardons to all those who, in the tumult and disorder of the times, may have deviated from their just allegiance, and who are willing, by a speedy return to their duty, to reap the benefits of the royal favour: and also for declaring, in his majesty's name, any colony, province, county, town, port, district, or place, to be at the peace of his majesty, I DO, THEREFORE, hereby declare; That due consideration shall be had to the meritorious services of all persons who shall aid and assist in restoring the public tranquillity in the said colonies, or in any part or parts thereof; That pardons shall be granted, dutiful representations received, and every suitable encouragement given, for promoting such measures as shall be conducive to the establishment of legal government and peace, in pursuance of his majesty's most gracious purposes aforesaid.

Given on board his majesty's ship the Eagle, off the coast of the province of Massachusetts-Bay, the twentieth day of June, 1776.

HOWE.

By order of Congress,

JOHN HANCOCK, president.

Extra from the minutes.

CHARLES THOMSON, secretary.

Extra of a letter from the Hon. major general PEE, dated Charleston, July 2, 1776, to the president of the Congress.

"I SHOULD have done myself the honour sooner of informing the Congress of the attack made by the enemy's squadron on Sullivan's island, and their repulse, but conjectured that by waiting a day or two, I might probably be furnished with the means of sending a more minute, full, and satisfactory account.

"My conjecture was right; for yesterday five seamen made their escape, one of whom is a more intelligent fellow than is commonly found amongst men of his level. Inclosed is a copy of their narrative [see our last week's gazette]. I may venture to congratulate Congress on the event. Not only the advantage must be considerable, but the affair reflects no small credit to the American arms.

"On Friday, about 11 o'clock, the commodore (Sir Peter Parker) with his whole squadron, consisting of two line of battle ships and six frigates, the rates of which are marked in the inclosed narrative, anchored at less than half musket shot from the fort, and commenced one of the most furious and incessant fires ever saw or heard. I was manifestly their plan to land at the same time, their whole regulars, at the east end of the island, and of course invest the whole fort by land and sea. As the garrison was composed entirely of raw troops, both officers and men, I thought it my duty to cross over to the island to encourage the garrison by my presence. But I might have saved myself that trouble, for I found on my arrival they had no occasion for any sort of encouragement. I found them determined and cool to the last degree; their behaviour would, in fact, have done honour to the old troops.

"I therefore beg leave to recommend in the strongest terms to the Congress, the commanding officer, col. Moutrie, and the whole garrison, as brave soldiers and excellent citizens. Nor must I omit at the same time, mentioning col. Thompson, who with the South Carolina rangers, and a detachment of the North Carolina regulars, repulsed the enemy in two feverish attempts to make a lodgment at the extremity of the island.

"Our loss, considering the heat and duration of the fire, was inconsiderable. We had only ten men killed on the spot, and twenty-two wounded, seven of whom lost their limbs. But with their limbs they did not lose their spirits; for they enthusiastically encouraged their comrades, never to abandon the standard of liberty and their country. This I do assure you, is not in the stile of galconading romance, usual after every successful action, but literally a fact. I with great pleasure mention the circumstance, as it augurs well to the cause of freedom. At eleven the fire ceased, having continued just twelve hours without the least intermission."

Published by order of Congress,

JOHN HANCOCK, president.

By accounts from Canada we learn, that our troops a few days after the battle at Three Rivers, retreated to the Ile of Noix, but finding that an extreme unhealthy place, were obliged to retire to Crown-Point, where they are repairing that old fortification. That the English had got to St. John's, where they would have to build boats before they could cross the lakes, and that we had a schooner of six carriage guns, and four other

be prevented crossing the lake.

Since our last the militia of this city, with a number of companies from the other parts of the province, have marched for New-Jersey.

From the Royal Calendar, for the year 1776.

A List of shipping on the North-American Station.

Third rates. Asia, captain George Vandeput, 64. Boyne, Brod. Hantwell, 70. Eagle, vice adm. Howe, 64. H. Duncan, 64. Somerset, G. Curry, 64.

Fourth rates. Britol, com. Sir Peter Parker, John Morris, 50. Centurion, Rich Brathwait, 50. Chat-ham, vice adm. Shuldham, J. Kayner, 50. Experiment, Robert Keeler, 50. Jersey, hospital ship, W. H. Hallett, 62. Isis, C. Douglass, 50. Frelton, J. Robinson, 50. Renown, F. Banks, 50.

Fifth rates. Blonde, P. Pownall, 32. Brune, 32. Emerald, B. Caldwell, 32. Niger, G. Althor, 32. Orpheus, C. Hudson, 32. Pearl, J. O'Hara, 32. Phoenix, H. Parker, jun. 44. Kobuck, Andrew Snape Hamond, 44. Thetis, 32.

Sixth rates. Active, C. Atkins, 28. Active, W. Williams, 28. Boreas, C. Thomson, 28. Carysfort, — Fantham, 28. Cerberus, 28. Deal Castle, Worth, 24. Fowey, G. Montagu, 24. Fox, Fotheringham, 28. Greyhound, 24. Glasgow, T. Howe, 24. Liberty, T. Bishop, 20. Lizard, 28. Mercury, 24. Milford, J. Burr, 28. Róis, J. Wallace, 20. Scarborough, Andrew Barclay, 20. Seaford, J. Colpo, 20. Solebay, T. Symons, 28. Sphinx, A. Hunt, 20. Yren, T. Furneaux, 28. Tartar, 28. Triton, Skiff, Lutwidge, 28.

Sloops. Atlanta, T. Underwood, 16. Carcase, R. Dring, 8. Cruiser, F. Parry, 8. Falcon, J. Lindze, 16. Ferret, J. Codney, 18. Hawke, R. Cooper, 10. Kingfisher, 16. Martin, W. Parker, 14. Merlin, C. Burnaby, 18. Nautilus, J. Collins, 16. Otter, M. Squire, 10. Savage, H. Bromedge, 8. Scorpion, J. Tollemache, 16. Senegal, W. Duddington, 16. Swan, J. Ayfcough, 14. Tamer, E. Thornborough, 16. Viper, D. Price, 10.

Armed vessels. Canceaux, Cherokee, Lieut. Ferguson, Diligence, Labrador, Magdalen, Lieut. John Nunn, Sultana.

Bomb-ketch. Thunder, J. Reid.

#### CONSTITUTION OF NEW-JERSEY.

WHEREAS the constitutional authority ever possessed by the kings of Great-Britain over these colonies, or their other dominions, was by compact derived from the people, and held of them for the common interest of the whole society, allegiance and protection are, in the nature of things, reciprocal ties, each equally depending upon the other, and liable to be dissolved by the other's being refused or withdrawn. And whereas George the Third, King of Great Britain, has refused protection to the good people of these colonies; and, by assenting to sundry acts of the British parliament, attempted to subject them to the absolute dominion of that body, and has also made war upon them in the most cruel and unnatural manner, for no other cause than asserting their just rights, all civil authority under him is necessarily at an end, and a dissolution of government in each colony has consequently taken place.

And whereas, in the present deplorable situation of these colonies, exposed to the fury of a cruel and relentless enemy, some form of government is a colony necessary, not only for the preservation of good order, but also the more effectually to unite the people, and enable them to exert their whole force in their own necessary defence; and as the honourable the continental congress, the supreme council of the American colonies, has advised such of the colonies as have not yet gone into the measure, to adopt for themselves respectively such government as shall best conduce to their own happiness and safety, and the well being of America in general: We, the representatives of the colony of New Jersey, having been elected by all the counties in the freest manner, and in congress assembled, have, after mature deliberation, agreed upon a set of charter rights, and the form of a constitution, in manner following, *Viz*:

I. That the government of this province shall be vested in a governor, legislative council, and general assembly.

II. That the said legislative council and general assembly shall be chosen, for the first time, on the second Tuesday in August next; the members whereof shall be the same in number and qualifications as is herein after mentioned; and shall be and remain vested with all the powers and authority to be held by any future legislative council and assembly of this colony, until the second Tuesday in October, which will be in the year of our lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven.

III. That on the said second Tuesday in October, yearly and every year for ever (with the privilege of adjourning from day to day as occasion may require) the counties shall severally choose one person to be a member of the legislative council of this colony, who shall be and have been, for one whole year next before the election, an inhabitant and freeholder in the county in which he is chosen, and worth at least one thousand pounds, proclamation money, of real and personal estate within the same county: That, at the same time, each county shall also choose three members of assembly; provided, that no person shall be entitled to a seat in the said assembly, unless he be and have been, for one whole year next before the election an inhabitant of the county he is to represent, and worth five hundred pounds, proclamation money, in real and personal estate in the same county: That, on the second Tuesday next after the day of election, the council and assembly shall separately meet; and that the content of both houses shall be necessary to every law; provided, that seven shall be a quorum of the council for doing business, and that no law shall pass, unless there be a majority of all the representatives of each body personally present and agreeing thereto: Provided always, that if a majority of the representatives of this province in council and general assembly convened, shall, at any time or times hereafter, judge it equitable and proper to add to or diminish the number or proportion of the members of assembly for any county or counties in this colony, then, and in such case, the same may, on the principles of more equal representation, be lawfully done, any thing in this charter to the contrary notwithstanding; so that the whole number of representatives

That all who are worth fifty pounds in the same county, shall be and have been, for one whole year next before the election, an inhabitant and freeholder in the county in which he is chosen, and worth at least one thousand pounds, proclamation money, of real and personal estate within the same county: That, at the same time, each county shall also choose three members of assembly; provided, that no person shall be entitled to a seat in the said assembly, unless he be and have been, for one whole year next before the election an inhabitant of the county he is to represent, and worth five hundred pounds, proclamation money, in real and personal estate in the same county: That, on the second Tuesday next after the day of election, the council and assembly shall separately meet; and that the content of both houses shall be necessary to every law; provided, that seven shall be a quorum of the council for doing business, and that no law shall pass, unless there be a majority of all the representatives of each body personally present and agreeing thereto: Provided always, that if a majority of the representatives of this province in council and general assembly convened, shall, at any time or times hereafter, judge it equitable and proper to add to or diminish the number or proportion of the members of assembly for any county or counties in this colony, then, and in such case, the same may, on the principles of more equal representation, be lawfully done, any thing in this charter to the contrary notwithstanding; so that the whole number of representatives



IV. That all inhabitants of this colony, of full age, who are worth fifty pounds, proclamation money, clear estate in the same, and have resided within the county in which they claim a vote for twelve months immediately preceding the election, shall be entitled to vote for representatives in council and assembly; and also for all other public officers that shall be elected by the people of the county at large.

V. That the assembly, when met, shall have power to choose a speaker, and other their officers; to be judges of the qualifications and elections of their own members; sit upon their own adjournments; prepare bills to be passed into laws, and to empower their speaker to convene them, whenever any extraordinary occurrence shall render it necessary.

VI. That the council shall also have power to prepare bills to pass into laws, and have other like powers as the assembly, and in all respects to be a free and independent branch of the legislature of this colony; save only, that they shall not prepare or alter any money-bill, which shall be the privilege of the assembly; that the council shall, from time to time, be convened by the governor or vice-president, but must be convened at all times when the assembly sits; for which purpose the speaker of the house of assembly shall always, immediately after an adjournment, give notice to the governor or vice-president of the time and place to which the house is adjourned.

VII. That the council and assembly jointly, at their first meeting after each annual election, shall, by a majority of votes, elect some fit person within the colony to be a governor for one year; who shall be constant president of the council, and have a casting vote in their proceedings; and that the council themselves shall choose a vice-president, who shall act as such in the absence of the governor.

VIII. That the governor, or in his absence, the vice-president of the council, shall have the supreme executive power, be chancellor of the colony, and act as captain-general and commander in chief of all the militia, and other military force, in this colony; and that any three or more of the council shall, at all times, be a privy council to consult them; and that the governor be ordinary or surrogate.

IX. That the governor and council (seven whereof shall be a quorum) be the court of appeals in the last resort in all causes of law as heretofore; and that they possess the power of granting pardons to criminals after condemnation, in all cases of treason, felony, or other offences.

X. That captains, and all other inferior officers of the militia, shall be chosen by the companies in the respective counties; but field and general officers by the council and assembly.

XI. That the council and assembly shall have power to make the great seal of this colony, which shall be kept by the governor, or, in his absence, the vice-president of the council, to be used by them as occasion may require; and it shall be called the Great Seal of the colony of New-Jersey.

XII. That the judges of the supreme court shall continue in office for seven years, the judges of the inferior court of common-pleas in the several counties, justices of the peace, clerks of the supreme court, clerks of the inferior courts of common-pleas, and quarter-sessions, the attorney-general and provincial secretary, shall continue in office for five years, and the provincial treasurer shall continue in office for one year; and that they shall be severally appointed by the council and assembly in manner aforesaid, and commissioned by the governor, or, in his absence, by the vice-president of the council. Provided always, that the said officers severally shall be capable of being re-appointed at the end of the terms severally before limited; and that any of the said officers shall be liable to be dismissed, when adjudged guilty of misbehaviour by the council, on an impeachment of the assembly.

XIII. That the inhabitants of each county, qualified to vote as aforesaid, shall, at the time and place of electing their representatives, annually elect one sheriff, and one or more coroners; and that they may re-elect the same person to such offices until he shall have served three years, but no longer; after which three years must elapse before the same person is capable of being elected again. When the election is referred to the governor or vice-president, under the said six freeholders of the county for which they were elected, they shall be immediately commissioned to serve in their respective offices.

XIV. That the townships, at their annual town meetings for electing other officers, shall choose constables for the districts respectively; and also three or more judicious freeholders of good character, to hear and finally determine all appeals relative to unjust assessments in case of public taxation; which commissioners of appeal shall, for that purpose, sit at the suitable time or times to be by them appointed, and made known to the people by advertisements.

XV. That the laws of this colony shall begin in the following style, viz. *Be it enacted by the council and general assembly of this colony, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:* That all commissions granted by the governor or vice-president shall run thus—*The colony of New-Jersey to A. B. &c. greetings: And that all writs shall likewise run in the name of the colony:* And that all indictments shall conclude in the following manner, viz. *against the peace of this colony, the government and dignity of the same.*

XVI. That all criminals shall be admitted to the same privileges of witnesses and counsel, as their prosecutors are or shall be entitled to.

XVII. That the estates of such persons as shall destroy their own lives shall not, for that offence, be forfeited; but shall descend in the same manner as they would have done had such persons died in the natural way; nor shall any article which may occasion accidentally the death of any one be henceforth deemed a deodand, or in any wise forfeited, on account of such misfortune.

XVIII. That no person shall ever, within this colony, be deprived of the inestimable privilege of worshipping Almighty God in a manner agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience; nor under any pretence whatsoever compelled to attend any place of worship, contrary to his own faith and judgment; nor shall any person within this colony ever be obliged to pay tithes, taxes, or any other rates, for the purpose of building or repairing any other church or churches,

any minister or ministry, contrary to what he believes to be right, or has deliberately or voluntarily engaged himself to perform.

XIX. That there shall be no establishment of any one religious sect in this province in preference to another; and that no protestant inhabitants of this colony shall be denied the enjoyment of any civil right merely on account of his religious principles; but that all persons professing a belief in the faith of any protestant sect who shall demean themselves peaceably under the government as hereby established, shall be capable of being elected into any office of profit or trust, or being a member of either branch of the legislature, and shall fully and freely enjoy every privilege and immunity enjoyed by others their fellow-subjects.

(To be concluded in our next.)

## WILLIAMSBURG, July 12.

Camp before Gwyn's island, July 10, 1776.

Yesterday morning brigadier-general Lewis, accompanied by the colonels Stephen, Woodford, Weedon, and Buckner, arrived here, when a vigorous attack was made on the fleet and camp of the enemy. The ships were so roughly handled, that the Dunmore, and several others, were in a short time towed off; and the enemy abandoned their works, after carrying away all their cannon, except a six pounder. We have taken the Lady Charlotte tender, with three guns, a very fine schooner and pilot boat, which they made use of as tenders. The want of boats prevented our seizing many torries, all their cannon, the greatest part of their baggage, and the negroes. The enemy have burnt several of their vessels, among them a very fine ship, (supposed to be the Dunmore, which was rendered unfit for sea. His lordship lost his china by a double-headed shot, and it is said he himself was wounded in the leg by a splinter. The fleet is drove off without water; and although they have plenty of prize flour, there is not a biscuit on board. The houses, ovens, and fortifications, which they had begun on the island, plainly prove that they had no intention of leaving it in so precipitate a manner. All the loss sustained was in poor capt. Arundel, of the artillery, who was killed by the bursting of a mortar. The officers and soldiers of col. Daingerfield's regiment behaved with great bravery.

The post-master in Fredericksburg writes, of last Wednesday, that, by a gentleman just arrived from Philadelphia, he had seen an Evening Post of the 2d instant, which mentions that the hon. the continental congress had that day declared the *United Colonies free and independent states.*

## ANNAPOLIS.

In CONVENTION, July 6, 1776.

RESOLVED, That a bounty of one shilling, common money, be paid by the council of safety for every bushel of salt imported into this colony, and delivered above Point Lookout, before the first day of March next, and that the importer be allowed to sell the same at any price not exceeding 7s. 6d. common money, per bushel.

Extract from the minutes,

G. DUVALL, clk.

In COUNCIL of SAFETY, July 9, 1776.

WANTED immediately, for the use of the province, three thousand four hundred canteens, or wooden bottles, to hold one quart each; three thousand four hundred knapsacks with haversacks; three thousand four hundred priming wires and brushes; and five hundred small iron pots, or kettles with bales, to answer the purpose of camp kettles. Any person or persons willing to contract for supplying the same, are desired to send their proposals to the council of safety as soon as possible.

July 10, 1776.

WANTED immediately a number of labourers. Persons applying to the commanding officer of the artillery at Annapolis for that purpose, will meet with encouragement.

WANTED immediately, for the service of the province, an armourer. Any person of skill in that business, by applying to the council of safety, will meet with encouragement.

By order,

R. Ridgely, assist. clk.

In CONVENTION, May 22, 1776.

RESOLVED, That a public salt-work be erected on or near the Bay, near the mouth of Patowmack, and another on the sea-board of this province; and that the said works be carried on on the public account, under the management and direction of such persons as shall be appointed by the Council of Safety for the time being; and that any sum of public money, not exceeding the sum of five hundred pounds, may, by order of the said Council of Safety, be expended in erecting and carrying on each of the said works.

Extract from the minutes,

G. DUVALL, clk.

In COUNCIL of SAFETY, June 10, 1776.

ALL persons who are willing to undertake the erecting and carrying on salt-works, agreeable to the above resolve of the late Convention, are requested to attend the Council, and give in their proposals, which will be duly attended to.

By order,

G. DUVALL, clk.

Just published, and to be sold at the Printing-office,

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## CONVENTION

OF THE

## PROVINCE OF MARYLAND,

Held at the city of Annapolis, on Friday the 21st

of June, 1776.

WANTED immediately, for the public's use at Annapolis, several good WHEELWRIGHTS.

Such will meet with good encouragement, by applying to the Council of Safety of Maryland.

THE schooner JOHN, lately from sea, and commanded by Francis Speake, lying now in Chingateague inlet, in Accomack county, Virginia. She is near 4000 bushels burthen, seven years old on the 22d of next month, found with sails, rigging, anchors, and cables, and may be readily sent to sea from the place she lies at. Any person inclinable to purchase her may know the terms, by applying to R. Hooe on the spot, or to capt. James Martin of Snow-Hill, who will be authorized to sell her for

JENIFER & HOGE.

To be sold, at Shaw and Chisholm's, in Church-street, near the Dock, Annapolis, a quantity of

Near Mr. Beale's ordinary, Frederick county, July 20, 1776.

WHEREAS a certain William Langley, about 5 feet 6 inches high, about 30 years of age, of a swarthy complexion, pitted with the small-pox, well set, with a light coloured coat pretty worn, a light coloured jacket and trousers patched about the knees, and an old hat not tied up, stole a horse, bridle and saddle, on Tuesday the 16th instant, about 13 hands high, bright bay, branded on the near side with a X, a broad place under the saddle without hair on the near side, a felon growing on his right eye. The saddle is almost new, and the bridle is tied in a knot in the middle. Whoever takes up the above Langley and secures him, so that he may be brought to justice, shall receive a reward of fifty shillings for the man, and fifty shillings for the horse and saddle, by Mr.

ANANIAS OGDEN.

Annapolis, July 22, 1776.

BROKE JAIL last night, the two following persons, both committed on suspicion of felony, viz. Negro JACK, the property of Miss Elizabeth Bordley, a tall slim young fellow, about eighteen or nineteen years of age: and on when he made his escape, a green half-thick jacket without sleeves, of a brig shirt and leather breeches; has remarkable long fingers and thick lips. JOHN CHAPING, an Englishman, about five feet six inches high, well set, black hair: had on when he made his escape, a pretty good white cloth coat, jacket and breeches, white shirt; he either served his time with, or is a servant to, Mr. Philip Thomas at West-River, and was committed on suspicion of having stolen some linen belonging to Mr. Samuel Galloway or Mr. Lancelot Jacques. Whoever takes up and secures both or either of the said felons, so that they may be had again, shall receive thirty shillings reward for each of them.

THOMAS DEALE,

Sheriff of Anne Arundel county.

Lower district of Frederick county, Maryland, July 22, 1776.

RAN away last night from the subscribers, two Irish servant men, viz. THOMAS URNER, by trade a tailor, is a lusty well-set fellow, about 5 feet 8 inches high, black hair, though I expect he has cut it off, as he carried away a pair of scissors: his apparel was, when he went away, an old jacket, old felt hat, old shirts, old shoes nailed at the bottom, new trousers of coarse country linen. HENRY SMITH, by trade a cooper, is a little fellow, with black hair, thin beard, and about 22 years of age, very apt to get drunk: he had on when he went away, an old claret coloured coat with flat buttons, and the coat patched with blue patches, old felt hat, old shirts, old shoes nailed at the bottom, new trousers of coarse country linen; they both are apt to blush when examined. Whoever takes them up ten miles from home shall have forty shillings for each or either, and if out of this province eight pounds for them or in proportion for either, and reasonable travelling expenses to be paid, by

HENRY GAITHER.

N. B. I have a good new fulling mill to rent, or I would hire a fuller if recommended.

## TWELVE DOLLARS REWARD.

July 23, 1776.

RAN away last night from the subscribers, living near the Head of Seneca in Frederick county, three convict servants, viz. EDWARD BADHAM, about 17 or 18 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, brown straight hair, brown complexion, dark eyes, smooth faced, and says he is country born: had on and took with him, when he went away, one white shirt, one coarse country ditto, a coarse dark coloured hunting shirt, the sleeves worn out at the elbows, a light coloured country span jacket pretty much worn, wool hat, coarse ofnabrig trousers, and old shoes. JOHN PINFIELD, about 17 or 18 years of age, 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, well set, much marked with the small-pox; had on a coarse country shirt and trousers, a pair of old shoes, and a fan-tail hat about half worn. GEORGE MILLETT, about 17 or 18 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, smooth faced; had on a small felt hat, coarse country shirt and trousers, a pair of old shoes, and an old cotton jacket. It is supposed they will all change their names. Whoever will secure said servants, so that we get them again, shall receive the above reward, or thirty shillings for either, including what the law allows.

ROBERT OWEN,

EDWARD PENN, son of Benjamin.



following persons, viz. THOMAS BURCH, an Irishman, a stocking weaver by trade, says he belongs to David Gee, near Mr. James Brooke's, about sixteen miles above Bladenburg, in Frederick county. Negro WILL, who says he belongs to Richard Mitchell son of Notly, near Piscataway. Their masters are desired to pay charges and take them from

2w RALPH FORSTER, Sheriff.

THERE is at the plantation of Freeman Colter, in Charles county, taken up as a stray, a black horse, about 6 years old, paces and trots, has no brand that can be discovered, has a large white spot on one side of his back, which appears to be made by the saddle, and has a switch tail. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.

TAKEN up as a stray by Henry Bowman, near Duck-Creek in Harford county, a small brown or dark mare, about 13 hands and a half high, no perceivable brand, has a crop in the left ear, which seems lately done, paces, trots and gallops, and is very low in flesh. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.

Annapolis, July 11, 1776.

LOST in this city, within these three days, either by being dropt in some part of it, or being stolen out of a draw in the house of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Esq; one sheet of the Convention paper currncy of the last impression, value £. 19 5 0. Any person having found the said sheet of money, who will bring it to the subscriber, may receive THREE POUNDS reward, or any larger sum that may be deemed adequate to their honesty.

Or supposing the said sheet to be found by a person having bills of a large sum, which means the theft can be discovered, such person shall receive TEN POUNDS reward on the conviction.

WILLIAM DEARDS.

INTEND to leave this province the first convenient opportunity.

4v COLIN CAMPBELL.

West-River, July 13, 1776.

A QUANTITY of white oak and other timber, either to be sold or worked up on halves, at the subscriber's plantation on West-River in Anne-Arundel county, where a few able negroes are wanted on hire, by the month or year. For further information apply to Philip Thomas, Esq; or

JOSEPH PEMBERTON.

Annapolis, July 9, 1776.

STRAYED from the subscriber on the 24th of June, a dark gray mare, about 7 years old, she is near 14 hands high, has a small switch'd tail with a hanging mane; as she has been accustomed to work in the plough may probably have some marks of the harness. She paces, trots and canters pleasantly, and has a number of dark coloured spots, particularly on her rump and legs. Whoever will bring her home, or give information of her, so that she may be had, shall receive 20 shillings reward.

JAMES MURRAY.

June 30, 1776.

COMMITTED to my custody as runaways, the following servants and slaves, viz. Peter Ingles, a Scotman; negroes Joe and Summer; say they belong to Arthur Wheatly of Dorset county. Benj. Lennon, an Irishman, says he belongs to capt. Ewing of said county. Negro Adam, says he belongs to Levin Woolford of said county. The above servants and slaves came down the Bay in a batteau, painted red; their masters are desired to take them away and pay charges to

3w HUGH HOPEWELL, ther. of St. Mary's co.

Annapolis, July 2, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber's plantation, called the Seven Mounts, at the mouth of Magotty river in Anne-Arundel county, the following indentured servants, viz.

JOSEPH MOSS, an English seaman, about 21 years of age, 5 feet 7 inches high, black hair and ruddy complexion; had on an ofsnabrig shirt and trousers and a felt hat.

MICHAEL DELANEY, an Irish farmer, 5 feet seven inches high, a thick well set fellow, dark hair and complexion; had on an ofsnabrig shirt and trousers and a worsted cap.

JOHN NEWLAND, an Englishman, bred up a waiter, about 23 years old, 5 feet 8 inches high, ruddy complexion and brown hair; had on an ofsnabrig shirt and trousers, a fan-tail castor hat, an old superfine crimson coloured cloth coat with gold basket buttons; but as he took other cloaths with him, it is probable he or they may change their dress and names.

They went off in a new clinck-work boat 10 or 12 feet keel, with a sail made of an ofsnabrig sheet. Newland is fond of strong drink, and when so is very talkative. Whoever will bring the said servants to Robert Heath, overseer at the subscriber's said plantation, or secure them in the public jails of this province, shall receive a reward of 15 pounds currency, or 5 pounds for either of them.

3w WILLIAM WORTHINGTON.

DEAR BROTHERS, in Prince-George's county, taken up as a stray, a small black mare, about 12 hands high, branded on the near buttock GM, and on the shoulder with something resembling N, two hind feet white, some white spots in her forehead, trots, paces and gallops. The owner may have her again on proving property and paying charges.

#### SIX POUNDS REWARD.

Fort Frederick Furnace, July 1, 1776.

RAN away last night, two servant men, viz. STEPHEN RICHARDS, a convict, has been four years in the country, a miner, born in Cornwall, a little fellow not exceeding 5 feet 5 or 7 inches high, hard featured and pitted with the small-pox, is bow legged and wears his hair tied: had on and took with him a country linen shirt and trousers, cotton jacket died brown, a country linsey ditto, country shoes, broad brags buckles, and a good felt hat; he is about 28 years of age.

JOHN JONES, an indentured servant, has been in the country about 15 months, born in Wales, about 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, has been brought up about iron works and is acquainted with the different branches of the business, dark complexion and pitted with the small-pox, short curled black hair, has a four look, small eyes, speaks broken English: had on and took with him one ofsnabrig shirt, blue cotton trousers, blue upper jacket, one under ditto made of Welch cotton with sleeves, an old castor hat, and half worn shoes and buckles.

Whoever takes up said servants and brings them home, or secures them so that the subscriber gets them again, shall receive if 20 miles from home 20 s. if 30 miles 30 s. if 40 miles 40 s. for each, if 60 miles the above reward including what the law allows.

3 DENTON JACQUES.

HEREBY give notice to the representatives of the estate of James Maccubbin, deceased, that unless they indemnify me by the 22d instant, from the claims of the creditors against said estate, I will expose the same to sale in order to discharge the said claims.

3w WILLIAM WOODWARD, admr.

Annapolis, June 19, 1776.

WANTED TO HIRE IMMEDIATELY, A SINGLE MAN, who understands waiting at a table, and can write a good hand. Such a person, of good character, may hear of a place, where good encouragement will be given, by applying to the printer hereof.

#### FIFTEEN POUNDS REWARD.

Annapolis, June 19, 1776.

RAN away last night from the subscribers, the following English servant men, viz.

JOHN FERGUSON (who frequently went by the name of FOX, from the colour of his hair, it being very red), about 20 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, thin visage, pitted with the small-pox: had on and took with him, when he went away, two check shirts, one ofsnabrig jacket, one frize ditto, two pair of ofsnabrig trousers, and a half worn straw hat lined with green silk, and had a ribbon round the crown.

HENRY PRATT, about 20 years of age, who professes the art of cookery, a little pitted with the small-pox, short black hair, very thin visage: had on and took with him, when he went away, one white cloth jacket, one ofsnabrig ditto, two check shirts, two pair of ofsnabrig trousers, a new pair of pumps, and an old castor hat.

RICHARD CARRINGTON, about 23 years of age, by trade a cabinet-maker, about 5 feet 4 or 5 inches high, very much pitted with the small-pox, stoops in his shoulders, short light coloured hair, very talkative when in liquor: had on and took with him, when he went away, a short brown cloth coat trimmed with white metal buttons, one bath coating jacket, one pair of ofsnabrig trousers, two brown sheeting shirts; he also took with him a silver mounted cutteau with a white bone hilt, the blade very straight and badly polished, and the scabbard half finished.

There was also taken from the Dock the same night, a yellow bottom BOAT, about 25 feet keel; with black bends and gunwales, not finished in the cabin, no hatches, and the sails but indifferent; the fore-sail much longer than the main-sail, the main gaff much too long; the property of Gilbert Middleton, one of the subscribers; and it is supposed that they went off in that boat, as John Ferguson frequently went in her as a hand. It is probable that they may quit the boat and pass for deserters from lord Dunmore, knowing that such are much countenanced throughout this continent.

Whoever takes up said servants and secures them and the boat, so that the owners may get them again, shall be entitled to the above reward, or if the servants only are taken and brought home, or secured so that the owners may get them again, shall receive ten pounds, or in proportion for any of them, or five pounds for securing the boat, and reasonable charges if brought home, paid by

5 GILBERT MIDDLETON, or SHAW & CHISHOLM.

given for fine white LINEN RAGS, and one penny per pound for coarse, by the Printer hereof.

Patuxent Iron-Works, February 6, 1776. BEING desirous of settling the estate of our father, RICHARD SNOWDEN, late of Patuxent Iron-Works, deceased, we request all such as are indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, as no longer indulgence will be given them. All persons that are indebted to the Patuxent Iron-Works Company, of more than twelve months standing, are requested to come immediately and make payment; and those who have it not in their power to make immediate payment, it is expected they will come and settle their accounts by note or bond. If the above requests are not complied with, we shall take such methods as will compel a settlement, without respect to persons, although it will be disagreeable to

3w SAMUEL and JOHN SNOWDEN.

THOMAS HARWOOD, jun. treasurer of the Western-shore, will give constant attendance at his office in West-street, Annapolis, to give in exchange bills of credit emitted by the Provincial Convention of Maryland the seventh day of December, 1775, for those emitted by the Convention the twenty-sixth day of July, 1775.

Upper Marlborough, Prince-George's county, June 25, 1776.

COMMITTED to my custody as a runaway, a Scots woman, who calls herself Cullen Stewart, and says she belongs to a certain Robert Fryer, about 20 miles above Alexandria in Virginia, on the Leesburg road. She is a lusty young woman, and has on an old country cloth jacket, a pretty good country cloth petticoat, and a country flaxen linen shirt. Her master is desired to pay charges and take her from

3w RALPH FORSTER

June 5, 1776.

THE Subscriber will attend at Talbot county Court-House, on every Tuesday of the week, for the purpose of giving in exchange bills of credit, emitted by the Provincial Convention the seventh day of December, 1775, for those emitted by the Provincial Convention the twenty-sixth day of July, 1775.

6w WILLIAM HINDMAN, treasurer of the Eastern-shore.

Upper Marlborough, June 1, 1776.

THE subscriber, intending to quit the province as soon as he can bring his affairs into such compass as to be left to an agent, earnestly intreats all persons indebted to him to settle their accounts, by giving bond with security for their respective balances. Those who do not comply with this reasonable request, may depend that immediate application will be made to the committee for leave to bring suits against them; and all persons who have claims against him are desired to bring them in, that they may be adjusted and discharged. The different deputy sheriffs of Prince George's county have lists of all balances due to him as sheriff, and should any dispute arise on such balances, and on application to himself he may not be able to satisfy the person about it, he will readily submit such to any one, two or more gent'lemen in the neighbourhood where such person lives who disputes them; and, for the ease of those who cannot pay money, he will take tobacco, corn, cattle, horses, sheep, or any thing else they may have to dispose of, that there is the least prospect of turning into cash soon, in discharge of them.

3w RALPH FORSTER.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in Calvert county, on Monday the 10th of June, a lusty negro fellow named WILL; had on when he went away, a country cloth jacket, ofsnabrig shirt and trousers; 'tis probable he may alter his dress. Whoever takes up the said negro, or secures him in any goal, so as I may get him again, shall be entitled to a reward of twenty shillings, besides what the law allows.

ALEXANDER OGG.

June 16, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in Prince-George's county, near Mr. Richard Snowden's Iron-works, on Sunday last, a convict servant man named WILLIAM SHEPPARD, by trade a shem-maker, about 5 feet 4 or 5 inches high, has short brown hair, is of a swarthy complexion, and has an ugly down look. He has been hurt in his right leg, which causes him to limp and to walk on the end of his toes on that side: had on and took with him a castor hat almost new, an old claret coloured coat much torn on the shoulders, new green jacket, ofsnabrig shirt, old leather breeches patched on the knees, white yarn stockings, and an old pair of shoes.

The above servant ran away on the 10th of May last and was taken up and brought home a day or two before he took his last departure. He stole out of my pasture on Sunday last a young black mare 3 years old, about 13 hands 3 inches high, docked but not branded, her off hind foot white. He also took with him a set of shoemakers tools.

Whoever secures the said servant and mare, so that their master may get them again, shall receive five pounds reward; for the servant alone three pounds, and for the mare forty shillings, and if brought home all reasonable charges, paid by

JOSEPH DUVAL.