

MARYLAND GAZETTE

F R I D A Y, J U N E 4, 1 7 7 9.

C H A R L E S T O W N, April 20.

T H E following letter and message was sent by Thomas Kelly, Esq; major of brigade, to brigadier general Williamfon, commander of the troops near fort Moore, viz.

S I R, Dawson's plantation, April 6, 1779. I AM ordered by col. Prevost to acquaint you that if you choose to exchange the three Indians taken by your troops, he pledges his honour that he will (on their arrival in our camp) send back any three substantial officers of the province of South Carolina that you shall name. I have the honour to be, &c. &c. (Signed) T. KELLY, major of brigade.

S I R, THE extraordinary treatment which his majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects receive at your hands, will not permit me to omit remonstrating to you on the impropriety of making so extraordinary distinction between the king's regular troops and such of his faithful subjects, who, actuated by principles and attachment to the best of constitutions, have endeavoured to give a proof of it, by endeavouring to join the royal standard. You cannot, Sir, have lost sight of the consequence that must result from so cruel a treatment, a prior a sacred right to the allegiance of these men, and of every other British subject, and the penalties attending the breach of it, ought to make the Americans cautious how, under the pretence of new made laws (which the strongest can only obtain a sanction for) they put us under the necessity of exhibiting a scene of punishments, which the mild hand of government, and the dictates of humanity, have hitherto restrained. I must also mention lieut. William Butler, who shot the safe-guard near Augusta, at Mr. Moore's house, and one Wells who mangled and cut to pieces the dead body of a person which, from all circumstances, should have been respected and held sacred (being placed there to secure the property of an enemy to government) such persons, I say, remain unpunished; the former boasts of that deed; and (if I can trust information offered on oath) of having wantonly killed men in their houses, because they refused to take arms against their sovereign; the other is at liberty, & these acts of lawless brutality exasperate the soldiers, and will be productive of hundred fold retaliation, which it will not be in the power of the officers to prevent, and a proper punishment ought to be inflicted on such flagitious crimes.

A war is sufficiently productive of calamities. I think it the duty of every man, not totally destitute of humanity, to alleviate its miseries whenever it is admissible. I have been often told of instances of your humanity, and your good treatment of some of our prisoners, which the fate of war has put into your hands, convinces me that if it was solely in your power there would be few grounds of complaint. I beg to be informed what number of prisoners you have now in your hands, and to acquaint you that we don't handcuff your people; you should be cautious how many of ours are put in irons.

The last point which I have to mention to you is relative to depredations daily committed on the inhabitants of this province, over which I have the honour to preside. That part of the country above Augusta, and from thence across to Ogechee, may be equally and quietly enjoyed by its inhabitants, till less calamitous times succeed the present ones. If you approve of it, those who favour the American cause shall be left unmolested, provided the loyal inhabitants are permitted to remain in the same manner, and respectively confine themselves to the care of their plantations. You cannot but be sensible that such a proposal, being suggested by mere humanity (if approved of by you) will be only a temporary neutrality to be broke at any time by giving a previous notice of ten days at least, unless you would agree to have it fixed for a limited time. I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant, J. M. PREVOST.

Brig. gen. Williamfon, commanding the troops of the American states, near fort Moore.

Brigadier-general Williamfon's answer. S I R, I AM favoured with your's, not dated, by major T. Kelly, and shall endeavour to satisfy you in respect to the different matters which you so seriously mention. With regard to those people you speak of as your king's dutiful subjects, I can aver that no persons, who with propriety come under that denomination, have ever met with the treatment from me which you are induced to believe; on the contrary, many, who in every sense come under the criminal laws of this state, have been admitted as prisoners of war, none of whom were ever handcuffed or otherwise treated with severity, farther than being kept in close confinement, in the only way I had in my power. I shall observe, that two persons who say they were officers in your army, viz. Aquilla Hale and Jacob Williams, the first for a cruel murder committed in North-Carolina before the revolution, and a robbery in this state, and the other for a highway robbery previous to their entering into your service; these, I say, coming immediately under the jurisdiction of our laws, I was left no choice what to do in the matter. Several others who under the name (but without the least orders or sanction for such conduct) called themselves king's men, and have daringly taken up arms against me, and wantonly plundered the honest and industrious inhabitants of this state, were properly seized, and delivered up to the civil law. You will observe the law as well in regard to those people, when I acquaint you, that on the most credible evidence it has appeared that, not satisfied with the innumerable rob-

beries they have for years past been accustomed to commit before and since the commencement of hostilities on this continent, they at last carried their lawless actions so far as to wound and maim some of our respectable inhabitants in the peaceful hours of domestic security. These are facts to my own knowledge: many of them have been more than once pardoned after condemnation for the most atrocious crimes; and I must beg leave to observe, that the lenity of our executive authority, and the interposition of some humane persons in behalf of these villains, has even by themselves been ridiculed. I am apt to believe, Sir, after reflecting on what I have mentioned, you will be satisfied neither cruelty nor harsh usage of prisoners can be imputed to me. British or foreign officers or soldiers who, by the fortune of war, may fall into our hands, behaving with propriety, shall be treated with humanity and generosity, and prisoners of war, of every class, shall have such comfortable subsistence as is in my power to furnish. One Pelther, who had a brevet of captain from col. Campbell, and whom I admitted on parole, stayed about camp a few days, and then went off. At the same time you do me the justice to acknowledge the good treatment that the regular troops have received from me; I must suggest to you the very different treatment of the continental troops by your soldiers. When taken prisoners, your officers have had the privilege of disposing of their property of every kind in my camp for their necessary subsistence; on the contrary, most of our officers and soldiers have been plundered of every necessary, and even the money taken out of their pockets.

With respect to the safe-guard you mention, Butler insults he shot him in his own defence; as to his killing men in their own houses for refusing to take up arms in defence of their country, I can positively assert no such thing ever happened; had it been so, Mr. Butler would have been amenable to the law in this case, and his life would probably pay for the act. The circumstance alluded to may arise from his having killed one Gaines, a deserter from the first continental regiment in the service of this state, and who having committed all the crimes before mentioned, and others shocking to humanity, at last with another came to the house of a poor old man, a neighbour of Butler's (who happened to be there) in the evening; on his seizing the old man, and demanding his money, Butler shot him down; this, Sir, you may rely on as a fact, without having recourse to affidavits, which I have no doubt may be offered by some of his accomplices in order to deceive you. As to the man Vesells, who mangled the dead body of the person killed at Mr. Moore's, I will not offer to justify; and so far from countenancing such barbarity, my indignation occasioned my immediately ordering the fellow in irons, and sent him down to gen. Lincoln, with a letter reciting the crime, that he might be punished. He was set at liberty, and gen. Lincoln returned me for answer, that no satisfaction had ever been obtained for the many wanton barbarities committed by your adherents.

I agree with you, that war of itself is sufficiently productive of calamities; and that it is the duty of every man not totally destitute of humanity to alleviate its miseries whenever it is possible. It ever has been, and ever shall be, a rule with me to treat prisoners with humanity; and when you mention your not handcuffing our people, I would not wish to entertain a belief that you mean to consider thieves, robbers, murderers, and persons of the most abandoned characters, as your king's loyal and dutiful subjects. If I am well informed, Sir, some gentlemen of the most respectable characters in your army, think you have enough of such banditti among you already, and for my own part, I think they are a nuisance and disgrace to community.

I enclose a particular list of the prisoners of war. The last point which you mention relative to the depredations daily committed on the inhabitants of Georgia, I could wish you had pointed out some of the sufferers, and the persons who had been guilty of those facts, as I had given positive orders to all the parties sent out by me against plundering any of the peaceable inhabitants, or molesting them in any manner whatever, although to consider Georgia as an enemy's country, it would only be a just retaliation for those committed in this state by col. M' Laurin, major Sharp, and many others; but it is not my wish to distress; nor should even considerations of private interest incite my resentment so far as to ruin a set of people, whose particular situation in a country, the seat of war, is already rendered deplorable. I shall therefore, as far as in my power, prevent them from being injured in the mean time, and in a few days will give you an answer respecting those people whom you wish to enjoy a temporary neutrality.

I have received a few lines from major T. Kelly, acquainting me that you would exchange sub officers for the Indians taken prisoners. These people were several days ago sent with a safe-guard to one of our frontier garrisons, in order to be exchanged for any of our people that may be in the hands of the Creek Indians. With regard to the mode of exchange, I hope no officer of ours would wish his release on such a footing; and I am sorry to think that savages should be considered as so valuable allies, and could wish, for the sake of humanity, which you seem so highly to prize, that your arms were not degraded by so frequent application to them, to fall on the innocent and defenceless. Our conduct in this particular has been widely different; even offers of services have been repeatedly rejected, and they have been told, that it is a quarrel in which they ought to have no part; although the method of employing them against an armed force and that of inciting them to the cruel massacre of innocent women

and children, will be considered in a very different light by the impartial part of mankind. I am, &c. (Signed) A. WILLIAMSON. Lieut. col. James Mark Prevost.

B O S T O N, May 13. Last Friday the privateer brig Pallas, belonging to Newbury Port, returned there from a cruise, during which she had made two prizes, one a vessel laden with salt, the other a ship from Liverpool, richly laden. We are informed that the English papers taken by the Pallas, in the prize from Liverpool, mention that Pondicherry is taken by the English in the East-Indies. That the house of lords had unanimously voted their thanks to admiral Keppel, notwithstanding the ministry had appeared, thro' the whole prosecution, to be much against him; that Sir Hugh Palliser, the ministerial tool in the persecution of the renowned Keppel, had become so much the object of the indignation of the people, that nothing but a strong guard could protect him; and that all the principal characters of the opposition, attended the admiral on his trial.

The present ferment in England, as well as Scotland, though they proceed from different causes, are both pointed against the Ministry, and may produce before long a great revolution, at least in places.

Last Saturday a party of the enemy, from Newport, landed at Point Judith, and stole from thence about 900 sheep, and between 60 and 70 head of cattle.

P R O V I D E N C E, May 2. Last Wednesday evening arrived here, capt. Pardon Sheldon, who sailed from this port for Surinam the 20th of February last, but on the 20th of March was taken by two privateers, off Bram-Point, in Surinam river, and carried to St. Vincents, from whence he was sent in a flag of truce to Dominico; where he got a passage to Cape Ann. Capt. Sheldon left Dominica the 15th of April, and informs, that the British fleet and army at St. Lucia were in so sickly a condition, that all the physicians of St. Vincents had been sent to their assistance, and that great numbers continued to die daily. Count D'Estaing's fleet, which lay at Martinico, consisted of 18 ships of the line, beside a great number of frigates, and some ships of the line were daily expected to arrive from France. Byron's fleet, it was said, consisted of 50 sail of the line, besides frigates. Some of the French ships were frequently cruising among the islands, and had captured three British sloops of war.

N E W H A V E N, May 12. Wednesday night last, a party of the enemy landed at Middlesex, in Stamford, to take capt. Selleck, who lives near the water-side, but he being from home, they missed their aim; however, they took off one continental lieutenant, and three other persons who lodged at capt. Selleck's. Friday morning, about 40 men landed from the Halifax brig, on a point, near the above place, and took off about 40 sheep and lambs.

N E W L O N D O N, May 13. Last Wednesday night, some villains stole a sloop, burthen about 40 tons, from a wharf in this town, and went off undiscovered. We learn that she was the next day met by two armed whaleboats near Gardiner's Island, who took the vessel and sent her into Mytic river; but the people got a shore on Gardiner's Island, and escaped.

Sunday last, the privateer sloop Eagle, capt. Edward Conkling, then cruising off Point Judith, took six sail of vessels, chiefly small except one of them, which was loaded with West-India goods. The manning of many vessels, reduced the crew on board the privateer to 15, whilst the number of prisoners on board were 16; who taking advantage of this circumstance in their favour, fell upon, and murdered the whole of the sloop's crew, except two boys; many of them were mangled in a most savage manner after they had surrendered. They then retook one of the vessels; but it was again taken by the Hancock and Beaver privateers, and sent into Stonington, where the six prizes have arrived. The Eagle was carried into Newport. Capt. Conkling's death is much regretted by all that knew him. He was a humane and worthy man, and a brave officer.

Last Tuesday was sent into port by the Hancock and Beaver privateers, the letter of marque brig Bellona (one of the noted Goodrich's fleet) mounting 12 guns, but has ports for 18. She was from Bermuda, bound to New-York, laden with West-India goods, and was taken off Sandy Hook.

Sixteen sail of shipping came out of Gardiner's Bay last Sunday, and stood to the westward; they were supposed to be woodmen bound to New-York. Since our last, the ship Oliver Cromwell, Capt. Timothy Parker, owned by this state, sailed from this port.

N E W Y O R K, May 13. Yesterday arrived the privateer brig Enterprise, capt. Jolly, belonging to this port, from a three weeks cruise, during which she has taken three prizes, one of which was retaken off the south side of Long-Island by a rebel armed sloop of ten carriage guns and twenty-nine men. Only three brave Hibernians, belonging to the Enterprise, were on board the prize, one of them named Murphy, another Rogers, the name of the third we have not learnt; these gallant fellows, declining to remain prisoners in the hands of rebels, concerted a plan, when they were taken on board the pirate vessel, to demolish the crew, and take possession of her; the watch word or signal when they were to set about this laudable exploit was the rifle; an opportunity soon of-

...ed for them to put their intentions into execution, by seven of the rebels jumping into their long boat to fasten the tackles and get her hoisted on board; when Mr. Murphy gave the signal, and immediately knocked down the sentinel and took his arms; he was bravely seconded by his two gallant companions, one of whom threw a piece of metal into the boat, which started a plank in her bottom, and then cut her painter, soon after which the and the seven rebels went down. Success crowned the endeavours of the three heroes, who after destroying twenty-four of the pirates, gave quarters to the remaining five, and then stood after the vessel out of which they were taken, which they retook, and brought both vessels into the Hook yesterday afternoon.

Capt. White of the privateer brig Spitfire, arrived here from Georgia, informs us, that fifteen hundred of the royal army, under the command of col. Maitland, crossed the river Savannah, on the evening of the twenty-seventh ult. to Purisburgh, on the Carolina side, where they surprised the rebel gen. Lincoln with two thousand congress troops, killed about one hundred and fifty, took about three hundred prisoners and obliged the remainder to run, many of them almost naked, into the woods. Capt. White has taken six valuable prizes during his cruise, one of them, on the fifth of Feb. named the St. Maria, a fine ship richly laden with indigo and tobacco. He also informs us, that capt. Slow, in an armed boat from St. Augustine, on the twenty-ninth ult. captured a brig from Calais to Charlestown, laden with salt and dry goods, the master of which says, that previous to his departure a packet boat arrived from England, which brought accounts of twenty thousand British troops being ready to embark for America, under convoy of seventeen men of war, and that their embarkation was to take place with the greatest expedition; that the French court reproached the Spaniards for remaining supine spectators while the navy of Great-Britain are ruining the commerce of France.

WILLIAMSBURG, May 22.

By advices which his excellency the governor has received from the Illinois, we learn, that Mr. Hamilton the governor of Detroit, came down this spring with a party of regulars, Canadjans and savages, and retook the post of St. Vincent, on the Wabash, garrisoned by a small detachment from the Illinois; that the brave col. Clarke, considering himself as reduced by this event, to the alternative of hazarding every thing on one desperate effort, or of abandoning our western acquisitions, determined to march with his whole force consisting of about 150 men, including some militia of the place, and make a vigorous attack on the enemy. The arrangements he made for this purpose were as judicious as the enterprise itself was heroic and arduous; he found Mr. Hamilton with his party in the fort, which he immediately besieged, so closely and vigorously, that in eighteen hours the whole were made prisoners. A scaping party of Indians, which Mr. Hamilton had sent out, returned to the fort soon after the surrender of it to the American arms, with the savage trophies of their success, and instantly suffered the vengeance due to their outrages on humanity. Col. Clarke has sent to governor Hamilton, Monsieur Dechang, judge of the court at Detroit, and capt. Lemott, with about 25 prisoners. They were when last heard of at New-London, in Bedford county. The express which col. Clarke sent with the particulars of this expedition, was murdered by the savages on his way, and the dispatches destroyed: it is also said, that a very large quantity of goods brought from Detroit, for the purpose of rewarding the barbarities of their Indian allies, was taken at the same time by col. Clarke.

A letter from the captain commandant at Detroit to governor Hamilton has been intercepted, which complains that since the departure of the latter, the inhabitants were all getting traitorous hearts.

The enemy, by the last accounts, after having burnt the town of Suffolk, destroyed the provisions there, and plundered its inhabitants retreated to Portsmouth, where they are fasting the provisions they have taken in their depredatory excursions to the adjacent counties.

To shew the barbarous and unmanly disposition of those invaders of our country, we submit to the public the following facts, authenticated by the testimony of one of the parties concerned. Four boys, viz. John Phupp, Thomas Walke, Thomas Lawson, and Peter Bow-Join, who were on their way from Mr. Andrews's school near Suffolk, to their parents in Princess Anne county, were overtaken by three of their light horse, and after striking one of them with a cut-throat, and the most abusive language, robbed them of their shoe and knee buckles, handkerchiefs, money, and all the cloaths they had, telling them at the same time, they might think themselves fortunate in not meeting with the Hessians instead of them, as they would not only have robbed them, but would have put them to death. How are the laurels of the British valour fallen, when women and boys are now become the objects of their vengeance!

Several deserters have come in from the enemy, and inform, that their design is not to stay there long, that many others were determined to desert, on account of the bad usage they receive.

PHILADELPHIA, June 1.

By capt. Newton Cannon, of the schooner Lady Washington, who on Sunday night arrived in this port, in 41 days from Providence, we learn, that he heard there from several British captains of vessels, of general Lincoln's having routed the British forces in South-Carolina, somewhere about Purysburgh, and killed and taken 2400 of them, but he could gather no further particulars.

S I R, Williamsburg, May 22, 1779.

Being in the greatest haste to dispatch your express, I have not time to give you any very particular information, concerning the present invasion; let it suffice therefore to inform Congress that the enemy's ships are nearly the same as was mentioned in my former letter; with regard to the number of the troops, which landed

and took Portsmouth, and afterwards proceeded, burnt, plundered and destroyed Suffolk, committing various barbarities, we are still ignorant, as the accounts from deserters differ widely; perhaps, however, it may not exceed 2000 or 3000 men.

I trust that we have a sufficient number of troops stationed in certain proportions at this place, York, Hampton, and on the south side of James's river.

When any further particulars come to my knowledge, they shall be communicated to Congress without delay. I have the honour to be, Sir, your humble servant,

P. HENRY.

To the hon. the president of Congress.

P. S. I am pretty certain that the land forces are commanded by general Matthews, and the fleet by Sir George Collier.

S I R,

Williamsburg, May 21, 1779.

I received the letter which accompanies this, yesterday, from South-Carolina, by express; and by desire of lieutenant gov. Bee, transmit it to you for the perusal of Congress. With great regard, I have the honour to be, Sir, your excellency's most obedient servant,

P. HENRY.

His excellency the president of Congress.

Charlestown, South Carolina, May 5, 1779.

S I R,

The enemy having crossed from Georgia into this state, and by a rapid movement got between gen. Lincoln and Charlestown, are bending their whole force this way; they were this morning within 68 miles of us, and are pursuing gen. Moutrie, who with about 1500 men is retreating before them. Gov. Rutledge, with about 350 men, had marched from Orangeburg on Monday, to join gen. Moutrie, but I much fear will be too late. Gen. Lincoln intended coming on their rear, but they were at least four days march ahead of him.

In this situation I thought it my duty once more to request the aid of our brethren of Virginia. No time is to be lost. Indeed I fear any assistance will come full late. I am, with great esteem, your excellency's most obedient humble servant,

THO. BEE.

Col. John Laurens received a slight wound in the arm, in a skirmish with the enemy's advanced party yesterday, and his horse was also shot. He is in a good way. Pray let his father know this, as I have not time to write to him.

His excellency Patrick Henry, Esq.
Governor of Virginia.

By order of congress,

CHARLES THOMSON, secret.

ANNAPOLIS, June 4.

We are well informed, that Great Britain intends to send out a considerable reinforcement, under the convoy of a large fleet.

By a letter to his excellency our governor from his excellency the governor of Virginia we are informed, that the enemy, who lately invaded that state, with a fleet of ships, consisting of the Reasonable of 64 guns, the Rainbow of 40, the Otter of 24, and sundry other armed and unarmed vessels, commanded by commodore Sir George Collier, together with a number of land forces, amounting to 2500 or 3000, commanded by major gen. Matthew, evacuated Portsmouth on Tuesday the 25th ult. after committing ravages and depredations of the most cruel and unmanly sort. After their departure from Portsmouth, they drew up their whole fleet before Hampton, and by a parade of their flat-bottomed boats, threatened a descent on that place; but a considerable body of troops, under col. Marshall, were so well prepared to receive them, and maintained so firm a countenance, that they did not choose to hazard the experiment. On the 27th, about noon, they hoisted sail, and proceeded to sea. No conjecture can be made concerning their destination, from their course, but from the uncommon quantity, and particular kind of some of their plunder, there can be little doubt, that they will return to New-York.

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, dated June 1.

"Part of the troops under gen. Washington are in motion, and I believe will take a station nearer New-York than the present.—No late European intelligence. We have a report from Charlestown by the way of Providence, that an action has taken place in that state much in our favour.—It is attended with such circumstances as to gain the belief of the delegates of that state. The captain and crew of the vessel from Providence are Americans, who had been taken and were permitted to purchase a vessel and to sail for New-York. They have however stumbled upon the port of Philadelphia. Their story is, that the day before they left that place, a vessel with rice arrived in a short passage from Charlestown in a bye port. One of the crew, a little boy, inadvertently blabbed out that there was a great illumination where he had been. This excited the curiosity of the standers by, and upon questioning the boy further, he said it was on account of a great battle fought near Charlestown. Others of the crew, when taken before an officer, confirmed what the boy had said, and mentioned further, that the capture by the American frigates of the Jason and Maria, and the eight transports under their convoy, bound for Georgia from New-York, had thrown them into the greatest difficulties, and laid them under the necessity of making a rapid and sudden march for Charlestown, or of doing worse.—2400 it is said are killed and taken. He accounts these people bring, when putting dates together, would carry this action as far back as the 13th of May, which is later than any intelligence we have had from authority. By lieutenant gov. Bee's letter of the 5th of May it appears the enemy had crossed the Savannah river, and were moving on rapidly towards Charlestown, and were at that time within 68 miles; that gen. Lincoln was in their rear, gen. Moutrie in front, and gov. Rutledge at Orangeburg, with a small body of militia. If it has so happened that the enemy were attacked by these several divisions of gen. Lincoln's army at different points at the same time, it is probable they fought with success."

Extract of a letter from Williamsburg, May 22.

"The enemy have at length quitted us, after plundering Portsmouth and the adjacent country in a most cruel and barbarous manner. The merchandise in that town is carried off, and the provisions so such a degree as to leave the inhabitants in the utmost distress and misery. They are undoubtedly returned to New-York. Suffolk is entirely burnt, together with a very large quantity of provisions, goods, &c."

"The invasion was so sudden that scarce any thing escaped them at Portsmouth. The property in my hands which was lost might have sold for £. 300,000."

"I had some expectation of saving a large quantity of dry goods which I had removed up a distant creek, but was surprised the same night by a party of horse and foot, who kill'd or took our whole party except myself, indeed for several minutes they gave no quarter. Happily for me I got away from the midst of them, and tho' closely sought after for five or six days together, I finally got to this city, having lost my baggage, money, and most of my papers and books. I had about 30 men with me, and was betrayed by some of the tory inhabitants, who conducted the enemy to the spot."

"Is it not very extraordinary, that two or three hundred men marched above twenty miles by land and burnt Suffolk unmolested? In short, they scarcely lost a man in this expedition. I hope your people are more spirited, for I truly fear you will have a visit from them, and likely this place, during the summer."

"The enemy's force here was about 1200 or 2000 land forces, one ship of the line, one frigate, a number of privateers and armed boats, and a row-galley mounting two twenty-four pounders."

TREASURY OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, April 3, 1779.

ORDERED. That all persons who have been entrusted with public money before the 25th day of March last, (and who are not accountable to the auditors of the army, or the commissioners of accounts at Albany) immediately transmit their accounts to the auditor-general for settlement, on failure whereof they will be prosecuted without further notice.

By order of the board of treasury,

JOHN NICHOLSON, clerk.

The several printers throughout the United States are requested to insert this notice, and continue it in their papers six weeks.

THERE is at the plantation of Marmaduke Simms, near Piscataway, Prince-George's county, taken up as a stray, a small bay horse, about 12½ hands high, branded on the near buttock I. K. and has one white foot behind; he appears to have been shod all round, though only one shoe now remains upon him. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.

Worcester county, Maryland, May 12, 1779.

NOW in the goal of this county, a NEGRO man called COLLINS, belonging to a gentleman (he says) living in New-Virginia, whose surname is Bell, and that he left him at Dover, in Kent county, in Delaware, some time in October, 1778; he is a small black fellow, about 25 years of age. His master is desired to come and pay charges and take him away.

W. B. BENJAMIN PURNELL, sheriff.

FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Annapolis, May 10, 1779. LOST by the subscriber, the time when lost uncertain, one State Loan-Office Certificate for 692 Dollars, No. 431, dated 24th July, 1778, payable to Mrs. Jean Stewart in three years from that date. Any person, on delivering the abovementioned Certificate to the subscriber, or to Mr. Benjamin Harwood at the Loan-Office in Annapolis, shall have the above reward immediately paid them; and if offered for sale, those to whom it may be offered are requested to stop the same, and to make the person offering give an account how it came into their possession. It can be of no use to any but the owner, as payment is stopped at the Loan-Office. JAMES DICK.

To be SOLD at public vendue, on the premises, on the 20th day of May next, the following tracts of LAND, lying within one mile of Calvert county court-house, on the main road leading to Benedict ferry,

PART of four tracts of land, containing 306½ acres, the title indisputable. On the said land is a good shingled framed dwelling house, 20 feet by 16, two rooms and two fire-places on the lower floor, with a large brick chimney, a framed clapboard kitchen 20 by 16, a corn-house and lumber-house, a milk-house, a paled garden 20 feet square, a 40 feet tobacco-house, and one log dwelling-house; 269 bearing apple trees, and one young orchard of 217 trees, about 300 young peach trees, and a nursery of 3 or 400 apple trees, and very good swamp ground for meadow; about 150 acres of wood land, with a large quantity of timber and large poplar trees. The quality of the soil and improvements will be best known by viewing the land. For terms apply to the subscribers, who live on the said land. TALBOT, JOHN FRANK & REBECCA WILLIAMS.

THE subscriber proposing to reprint the LAWS of MARYLAND, now in force, from BACON's collection up to the present government, has sent subscription papers to the clerks of the several counties, to give those an opportunity of subscribing who are desirous of having them. They will be done in the same manner with BACON's, stitched in blue paper, and delivered to the subscribers, for ten dollars each copy.—He intended to have begun the work some time ago, but has not yet been able to procure paper fit for the purpose.—Subscriptions are taken in at his office.

FREDERICK GREEN.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

SUPPLEMENT to the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1779.

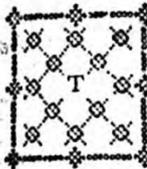
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TO THE INHABITANTS

OF THE

United States of AMERICA.

FRIENDS AND COUNTRYMEN,



THE present situation of public affairs demands your most serious attention, and particularly the great and encreasing depreciation of your currency requires the immediate, strenuous, and united efforts of all true friends to their country, for preventing an extension of the mischiefs that have already flowed from that source.

America, without arms, ammunition, discipline, revenue, government, or ally, almost totally stripped of commerce, and in the weakness of youth, as it were with a "staff and a sling" only, dared "in the name of the Lord of Hosts" to engage a gigantic adversary, prepared at all points, boasting of his strength, and of whom even mighty warriors "were greatly afraid."

For defraying the expences of this uncommon war, your representatives in congress were obliged to emit paper money; an expedient that you knew to have been before generally and successfully practised on this continent.

They were very sensible of the inconveniences with which too frequent emissions would be attended, and endeavoured to avoid them. For this purpose they established loan-offices so early as in October 1776, and have from that time to this repeatedly and earnestly solicited you to lend them money on the faith of the United States. The sums received on loan have nevertheless proved inadequate to the public exigencies. Our enemies prosecuting the war by sea and land with implacable fury and with some success, taxation at home and borrowing abroad, in the midst of difficulties and dangers, were alike impracticable. Hence the continued necessity of new emissions.

But to this cause alone we do not impute the evil before mentioned. We have too much reason to believe it has been in part owing to the artifices of men who have hastened to enrich themselves by monopolizing the necessaries of life, and to the misconduct of interior officers employed in the public service.

The variety and importance of the business entrusted to your delegates, and their constant attendance in congress, necessarily disables them from investigating disorders of this kind. Justly apprehensive of them, they, by their several resolutions of the 22d of November and 20th of December 1777, and of the 3d and 9th of February 1778, recommended to the legislative and executive powers of these states a due attention to these interesting affairs. How far those recommendations have been complied with we will not undertake to determine; but we hold ourselves bound in duty to you to declare, that we are not convinced there has been as much diligence used in detecting and reforming abuses as there has been in committing or complaining of them.

With regard to monopolizers it is our opinion, that taxes judiciously laid on such articles as become the objects of engrossers, and those frequently collected, would operate against the pernicious tendency of such practices.

As to inferior officers employed in the public service, we anxiously desire to call your most vigilant attention to their conduct with respect to every species of misbehaviour, whether proceeding from ignorance, negligence or fraud, and to the making of laws for inflicting exemplary punishments on all offenders of this kind.

We are sorry to hear that some persons are so slightly informed of their own interests as to suppose that it is advantageous to them to sell the produce of their farms at enormous prices, when a little reflection might convince them that it is injurious to those interests and the general welfare. If they expect thereby to purchase imported goods cheaper, they will be egregiously disappointed; for the merchants, who know they cannot obtain returns in gold, silver, or bills of exchange, but that their vessels if loaded here at all must be loaded with produce, will raise the price of what they have to sell, in proportion to the price of what they have to buy; and consequently the landholder can purchase no more foreign goods for the same quantity of his produce than he could before.

The evil, however, does not stop at this point. The landholder, by acting on this mistaken calculation, is only labouring to accumulate an immense debt by encreasing the public expences, for the payment of which his estate is engaged, and to embarrass every measure adopted for vindicating his liberty and securing his prosperity.

As the harvests of this year, which by the divine goodness promise to be plentiful, will soon be gathered, and some new measures relating to your foreign concerns, with some arrangements relating to your domestic, are now under consideration, from which beneficial effects are expected, we entertain hopes that your affairs will acquire a much greater degree of regularity and energy than they have hitherto had.

But we should be highly criminal if we did not plainly tell you that those hopes are not founded wholly on our own proceedings. These must be supported by your virtue, your wisdom, and your diligence. From the advantage of those seats in the national council with which you have honoured us, we have a pleasing prospect of many blessings approaching to our native land. It is your patriotism must introduce and fix them here.

In vain will it be for your delegates to form plans of economy; to strive to stop a continuation of emissions by taxation or loan, if you do not zealously co-operate with them in promoting their designs, and use your utmost industry to prevent the waste of money in the expenditure, which your respective situations in the several places where it is expended, may enable you to do. A discharge of this duty and a compliance with recommendations for supplying money, might enable congress to give speedy assurances to the public that no more emissions shall take place, and thereby close that source of depreciation.

Your governments being now established, and your ability to contend with your invaders ascertained, we have on the most mature deliberation judged it indispensably necessary to call upon you for forty five millions of dollars, in addition to the fifteen millions required by a resolution of congress of the 2d of January last, to be paid into the continental treasury before the 1st day of January next, in the same proportion, as to the quotas of the several states, with that for the said fifteen millions.

It appeared proper to us to fix the first day of next January for the payment of the whole; but as it is probable that some states, if not all, will raise part of the sums by installments or otherwise before that time, we recommend in the strongest manner the paying as much as can be collected as soon as possible into the continental treasury.

Though it is manifest that moderate taxation in times of peace will recover the credit of your currency, yet the encouragement which your enemies derive from its depreciation and the present exigencies demand great and speedy exertions.

We are persuaded you will use all possible care to make the promotion of the general welfare interfere as little as may be with the ease and comfort of individuals; but though the raising these sums should press heavily on some of our constituents, yet the obligations we feel to your venerable clergy, the truly helpful widows and orphans, your most gallant, generous, meritorious officers and soldiers, the public faith and the common weal, so irresistibly urge us to attempt the appreciation of your currency, that we cannot withhold obedience to those authoritative sensations.

On this subject we will only add that as the rules of justice are most pleasing to our infinitely good and gracious Creator, and an adherence to them most likely to obtain his favour, so they will ever be found to be the best and safest maxims of human policy.

To our constituents we submit the propriety and purity of our intentions, well knowing they will not forget, that we lay no burthens upon them, but those in which we participate with them—a happy sympathy, that pervades societies formed on the basis of equal liberty. Many cares, many labours, and may we not add reproaches,—are peculiar to us. These are the emoluments of our untollected stations; and with these we are content, if you approve our conduct. If you do not, we shall return to our private condition with no other regret, than that which will arise from our not having served you as acceptably and essentially as we wished and strove to do, though as cheerfully and faithfully as we could.

Think not we despair of the commonwealth, or endeavour to shrink from opposing difficulties. No Your cause is too good, your objects too sacred, to be relinquished. We tell you truths, because you are freemen who can bear to hear the and may profit by them; and when they reach your enemies, we fear not the consequences, because we are not ignorant of their resource.

on the appearance of a few continental troops they thought proper to retreat rather hastily, having secured only a part of their booty.

NEW LONDON, May 20.

Thursday last arrived here a sloop from Corke, bound to New-York, laden with provisions, a prize to the ship Patman.

Sunday was sent into port the privateer Lady Eskine, capt. Drew, of eight guns, taken in a fight of this morning by the Hancock and Beaver privateers, out of a fleet of twenty-one sail, who were bound from New-York to Rhode-Island, under convoy of the Thomas, a British frigate of thirty-six guns.

had brought into this city, the dearer they have been, and this is one of the evils which it is absolutely necessary to enquire into. But the great point is to begin.

The paper I have in my hand contains some resolutions which have been drawn up and agreed on by a committee of citizens, which, with your approbation, I will read. I propose first to read the whole through, and then read it a second time by paragraphs, in order to take your sense thereon.

The paper being read, after some amendments, was agreed to as follows:

Whereas the prices of goods and provisions have, within the space of five or six months, risen to an enormous

George Schlosser, col. Will, col. John Eyre, capt. Heynam, major Boyd, Philip Boehm, Jedediah Snowden, Nathaniel Donnell, capt. Robert Smith, capt. Lang, Dr. Hutchinson, William Brown, Paul Cox, Edward Pole, Thomas Caldwell, capt. George Ord, James Skinner, John Kling, William Thorn, William Coats, tanner, Joseph Dean, capt. John Young, Caldwell Dickinon, capt. Thomas Moore.

Signed by order of the meeting, DANIEL FORDDEAU, chairman.

The thanks of the meeting were unanimously returned to the chairman for his noble and disinterested manner of conducting the business.

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...ed for them to put their intentions into execution, by seven of the rebels jumping into their long boat to fasten the tackles and get her hoisted on board; when Mr Murphy gave the signal, and immediately knocked down the centinel and took his arms; he was bravely seconded by his two gallant companions, one of whom threw a piece of metal into the boat, which started a plank in her bottom, and then cut her painter, soon after which she and the seven rebels went down. Success crowned the endeavours of the three heroes, who after destroying twenty-four of the pirates, gave quarters to the remaining five, and then stood after the vessel out of which they were taken, which they retook, and brought both vessels into the Hook yesterday afternoon.

Capt. White of the privateer brig Spitfire, arrived here from Georgia, informs us, that fifteen hundred of the royal army, under the command of col. Maitland, crossed the river Savannah, on the evening of the twenty-seventh ult. to Purisburgh, on the Carolina side, where they surprized the rebel gen. Lincoln with two thousand congress troops, killed about one hundred and fifty, took about three hundred prisoners and obliged the remainder to run, many of them almost naked, into the woods. Capt. White has taken six valuable prizes during his cruise, one of them, on the fifth of Feb. named the St. Maria, a fine ship richly laden with indigo and tobacco. He also informs us, that capt. Slow, in an armed boat from St. Augustine, on the twenty-fifth ult. captured a brig from Calais to Charlestown, laden with salt and dry goods, the master of which says, that previous to his departure a packet boat arrived from England, which brought accounts of twenty thousand British troops being ready to embark for America, under convoy of seventeen men of war, and that their embarkation was to take place with the greatest expedition; that the French court reproached the Spaniards for remaining supine spectators while the navy of Great-Britain are ruining the commerce of France.

WILLIAMSBURG, May 22.

By advices which his excellency the governor has received from the Illinois, we learn, that Mr. Hamilton the governor of Detroit, came down this spring with a party of regulars, Canadjans and savages, and retok the post of St. Vincent, on the Wawbush, garrisoned by a small detachment from the Illinois; that the brave col. Clarke, considering himself as reduced by this event, to the alternative of hazarding every thing on one desperate effort, or of abandoning our western acquisitions, determined to march with his whole force consisting of about 150 men, including some militia of the place, and make a vigorous attack on the enemy. The arrangements he made for this purpose were as judicious as the enterprise itself was heroic and arduous; he found Mr. Hamilton with his party in the fort, which he immediately besieged, so closely and vigorously, that in eighteen hours the whole were made prisoners. A scalping party of Indians, which Mr. Hamilton had sent out, returned to the fort soon after the surrender of it to the American arms, with the savage trophies of their success, and instantly suffered the vengeance due to their outrages on humanity. Col. Clarke has sent to governor Hamilton, Monsieur Dechang, judge of the court at Detroit, and capt. Lemott, with about 15 prisoners. They were when last heard of at New-London, in Bedford county. The express which col. Clarke sent with the particulars of this expedition, was murdered by the savages on his way, and the dispatches destroyed; it is also said, that a very large quantity of goods brought from Detroit, for the purpose of rewarding the barbarities of their Indian allies, was taken at the same time by col. Clarke.

A letter from the captain commandant at Detroit to governor Hamilton has been intercepted, which complains that since the departure of the latter, the inhabitants were all getting traitorous hearts.

The enemy, by the last accounts, after having burnt the town of Suffolk, destroyed the provisions there, and plundered its inhabitants retreated to Portsmouth, where they are eating the provisions they have taken in their depredatory excursions to the adjacent counties.

To shew the barbarous and unmanly disposition of those invaders of our country, we submit to the public the following facts, authenticated by the testimony of one of the parties concerned. Four boys, viz John Phupp, Thomas Walke, Thomas Lawson, and Peter Bowoin, who were on their way from Mr. Andrews's school near Suffolk, to their parents in Princess Anne county, were overtaken by three of their light horse, and after striking one of them with a cutlass, and the most abusive language, robbed them of their shoe and knee buckles, handkerchiefs, money, and all the cloaths they had, telling them at the same time, they might think themselves fortunate in not meeting with the Hessians instead of them, as they would not only have robbed them, but would have put them to death. How are the laurels of the British valour fallen, when women and boys are now become the objects of their vengeance!

Several deserters have come in from the enemy, and inform, that their design is not to stay there long; that many others were determined to desert, on account of the bad usage they receive.

PHILADELPHIA, June 1.

By capt. Newton Cannon, of the schooner Lady Washington, who on Sunday night arrived in this port, in 11 days from Providence, we learn, that he heard there from several British captains of vessels, of general Lincoln's having routed the British forces in South-Carolina, somewhere about Purysburg, and killed and taken 1400 of them, but he could gather no further particulars.

S I R, Williamsburg, May 28, 1779.

Being in the greatest haste to dispatch your express, I have not time to give you any very particular information, concerning the present invasion; let it suffice therefore to inform Congress that the enemy's ships are nearly the same as was mentioned in my former letter; with regard to the number of the troops, which landed

and took Portsmouth, and afterwards proceeded, burnt, plundered and destroyed Suffolk, committing various barbarities, we are still ignorant, as the accounts from deserters differ widely; perhaps, however, it may not exceed 2000 or 2500 men.

I trust that we have a sufficient number of troops stationed in certain proportions at this place, York, Hampton, and on the south side of James's river.

When any further particulars come to my knowledge, they shall be communicated to Congress without delay. I have the honour to be, Sir, your humble servant, P. HENRY.

To the hon. the president of Congress.

P. S. I am pretty certain that the land forces are commanded by general Matthews, and the fleet by Sir George Collier.

S I R, Williamsburg, May 21, 1779.

I received the letter which accompanies this, yesterday, from South-Carolina, by express, and by desire of licut. gov. Bee, transmit it to you for the perusal of Congress. With great regard, I have the honour to be, Sir, your excellency's most obedient servant, P. HENRY.

His excellency the president of Congress.

Charlestown, South Carolina, May 5, 1779.

S I R, The enemy having crossed from Georgia into this state, and by a rapid movement got between gen. Lincoln and Charlestown, are bending their whole force this way; they were this morning within 68 miles of us, and are pursuing gen. Moultrie, who with about 1500 men is retreating before them. Gov. Rutledge, with about 350 men, had marched from Orangeburg on Monday, to join gen. Moultrie, but I much fear will be too late. Gen. Lincoln intended coming on their rear, but they were at least four days march ahead of him.

In this situation I thought it my duty once more to request the aid of our brethren of Virginia. No time is to be lost. Indeed I fear any assistance will come too late. I am, with great respect, your excellency's most obedient humble servant, THO. BEE.

Col. John Laurens received a slight wound in the arm, in a skirmish with the enemy's advanced party yesterday, and his horse was also shot. He is in a good way. Pray let his father know this, as I have not time to write to him.

His excellency Patrick Henry, Esq;

Governor of Virginia.

By order of congress,

CHARLES HOMSON, secr.

ANNAPOLIS, June 4.

We are well informed, that Great Britain intends to send out a considerable reinforcement, under the convoy of a large fleet.

By a letter to his excellency our governor from his excellency the governor of Virginia we are informed, that the enemy, who lately invaded that state, with a fleet of ships, consisting of the Reasonable of 64 guns, the Rainbow of 40, the Otter of 24, and sundry other armed and unarmed vessels, commanded by commodore Sir George Collier, together with a number of land forces, amounting to 2500 or 3000, commanded by maj. gen. Matthew, evacuated Portsmouth on Tuesday the 25th ult. after committing ravages and depredations of the most cruel and unmanly sort. After their departure from Portsmouth, they drew up their whole fleet before Hampton, and by a parade of their flat-bottomed boats, threatened a descent on that place; but a considerable body of troops, under col. Marshall, were so well prepared to receive them, and maintained so firm a countenance, that they did not choose to hazard the experiment. On the 27th, about noon, they hoisted sail, and proceeded to sea. No conjecture can be made concerning their destination, from their course, but from the uncommon quantity, and particular kind of some of their plunder, there can be little doubt, that they will return to New-York.

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, dated June 1.

"Part of the troops under gen. Washington are in motion, and I believe will take a station nearer New-York than the present.—No late European intelligence. We have a report from Charlestown by the way of Providence, that an action has taken place in that state much in our favour.—It is attended with such circumstances as to gain the belief of the delegates of that state. The captain and crew of the vessel from Providence are Americans, who had been taken and were permitted to purchase a vessel and to sail for New-York. They have however stumbled upon the port of Philadelphia. Their story is, that the day before they left that place, a vessel with rice arrived in a short passage from Charlestown in a bye port. One of the crew, a little boy, inadvertently blabbed out that there was a great illumination where he had been. This excited the curiosity of the standers by, and upon questioning the boy further, he said it was on account of a great battle fought near Charlestown. Others of the crew, when taken before an officer, confirmed what the boy had said, and mentioned further, that the capture by the American frigates of the Jason and Maria, and the eight transports under their convoy, bound for Georgia from New-York, had thrown them into the greatest difficulties, and laid them under the necessity of making a rapid and sudden march for Charlestown, or of doing worse.—1400 it is said are killed and taken. He accounts these people bring, when putting dates together, would carry this action as far back as the 15th of May, which is later than any intelligence we have had from authority. By licut. gov. Bee's letter of the 5th of May it appears the enemy had crossed the Savannah river, and were moving on rapidly towards Charlestown, and were at that time within 68 miles; that gen. Lincoln was in their rear, gen. Moultrie in front, and gov. Rutledge at Orangeburg, with a small body of militia. If it has so happened that the enemy were attacked by these several divisions of gen. Lincoln's army at different points at the same time, it is probable they fought with success."

Extract of a letter from Williamsburg, May 22.

"The enemy have at length quitted us, after plundering Portsmouth and the adjacent country in a most cruel and barbarous manner. The merchandise in the town is carried off, and the provisions to such a degree as to leave the inhabitants in the utmost distress and misery. They are undoubtedly returned to New-York. Suffolk is entirely burnt, together with a very large quantity of provisions, goods, &c.

"The invasion was so sudden that scarce any thing escaped them at Portsmouth. The property in my hands which was lost might have sold for £. 300,000.

"I had some expectation of saving a large quantity of dry goods which I had removed up a distant creek, but was surprized the same night by a party of horse and foot, who kill'd or took our whole party except myself, indeed for several minutes they gave no quarter. Happily for me I got away from the middle of them, and tho' closely fought after for five or six days together, I finally got to this city, having lost my baggage, money, and most of my papers and books. I had about 30 men with me, and was betrayed by some of the tory inhabitants, who conducted the enemy to the spot.

"Is it not very extraordinary, that two or three hundred men marched above twenty miles by land and burnt Suffolk unmolested? In short, they scarcely lost a man in this expedition. I hope your people are more spirited, for I truly fear you will have a visit from them, and likely this place, during the summer.

"The enemy's force here was about 1800 or 2000 land forces, one ship of the line, one frigate, a number of privateers and armed boats, and a row-galley mounting two twenty-four pounders."

TREASURY OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, April 3, 1779.

ORDERED, that all persons who have been entrusted with public money before the 25th day of March last, (and who are not accountable to the auditors of the army, or the commissioners of accounts at Albany) immediately transmit their accounts to the auditor-general for settlement, on failure whereof they will be prosecuted without further notice.

By order of the board of treasury, JOHN NICHOLSON, clerk.

The several printers throughout the United States are requested to insert this notice, and continue it in their papers six weeks.

THERE is at the plantation of Marmaduke Simms, near Piscataway, Prince-George's county, taken up as a stray, a small bay horse, about 12½ hands high, branded on the near buttock I. K. and has one white foot behind; he appears to have been shod all round, though only one shoe now remains upon him. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges. I X P O 6 Del.

Worcester county, Maryland, May 18, 1779.

NOW in the goal of this county, a NEGRO man called COLLINS, belonging to a gentleman (he says) living in New-Virginia, whose surname is Bell, and that he left him at Dover, in Kent county, in Delaware, some time in October, 1778; he is a small black fellow, about 25 years of age. His master is desired to come and pay charges and take him away.

w 3 BENJAMIN PURNELL, sheriff.

FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Annapolis, May 10, 1779. LOST by the subscriber, the time when lost uncertain, one State Loan-Office Certificate for 69 Dollars, No. 431, dated 24th July, 1778, payable to Mrs. Jean Stewart in three years from that date.

Any person, on delivering the above-mentioned Certificate to the subscriber, or to Mr. Benjamin Harwood at the Loan-Office in Annapolis, shall have the above reward immediately paid him; and if offered for sale, those to whom it may be offered are requested to stop the same, and to make the person offering give an account how it came into their possession. It can be of no use to any but the owner, as payment is stop'd at the Loan-Office. JAMES DICK.

To be SOLD at public vendue, on the premises, on the 20th day of May next, the following tracts of LAND, lying within one mile of Calvert county court-house, on the main road leading to Benedict ferry,

PART of four tracts of land, containing 306½ acres, the title indisputable. On the said land is a good shingled framed dwelling house, 20 feet by 16, two rooms and two fire-places on the lower floor, with a large brick chimney, a framed clapboard kitchen 20 by 16, a corn-house and lumber-house, a milk-house, a paled garden 80 feet square, a 40 feet tobacco-house, and one log dwelling-house; 269 bearing apple trees, and one young orchard of 127 trees, about 500 young peach trees, and a nursery of 3 or 400 apple trees, and very good swamp ground for meadow; about 150 acres of wood land, with a large quantity of timber and large poplar trees. The quality of the soil and improvements will be best known by viewing the land. For terms apply to the subscribers, who live on the said land. TALBOT, JOHN FRANK & REBECCA WILLIAMS.

THE subscriber proposing to reprint the LAWS of MARYLAND, now in force, from BACON's collection up to the present government, has sent subscription papers to the clerks of the several counties, to give those an opportunity of subscribing who are desirous of having them. They will be done in the same manner with BACON's, stitched in blue paper, and delivered to the subscribers for ten dollars each copy.—He intended to have begun the work some time ago, but has not yet been able to procure paper fit for the purpose.—Subscriptions are taken in at his office. FREDERICK GREEN.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

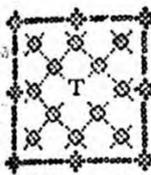
SUPPLEMENT to the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1779.

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TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE United States of AMERICA.

FRIENDS AND COUNTRYMEN,



THE present situation of public affairs demands your most serious attention, and particularly the great and encreasing depreciation of your currency requires the immediate, strenuous, and united efforts of all true friends to their country, for preventing an extension of the mischiefs that have already flowed from that source.

America, without arms, ammunition, discipline, revenue, government, or ally, almost totally stripped of commerce, and in the weakness of youth, as it were with a "staff and a sling" only, dared "in the name of the Lord of Hosts" to engage a gigantic adversary, prepared at all points, boasting of his strength, and of whom even mighty warriors "were greatly afraid."

For defraying the expences of this uncommon war, your representatives in congress were obliged to emit paper money; an expedient that you knew to have been before generally and successfully practised on this continent.

They were very sensible of the inconveniences with which too frequent emissions would be attended, and endeavoured to avoid them. For this purpose they established loan-offices so early as in October 1776, and have from that time to this repeatedly and earnestly solicited you to lend them money on the faith of the United States. The sums received on loan have nevertheless proved inadequate to the public exigencies. Our enemies prosecuting the war by sea and land with implacable fury and with some success, taxation at home and borrowing abroad, in the midst of difficulties and dangers, were alike impracticable. Hence the continued necessity of new emissions.

But to this cause alone we do not impute the evil before mentioned. We have too much reason to believe it has been in part owing to the artifices of men who have hastened to enrich themselves by monopolizing the necessities of life, and to the misconduct of interior officers employed in the public service.

The variety and importance of the business entrusted to your delegates, and their constant attendance in congress, necessarily disables them from investigating disorders of this kind. Justly apprehensive of them, they, by their several resolutions of the 22d of November and 20th of December 1777, and of the 3d and 9th of February 1778, recommended to the legislative and executive powers of these states a due attention to these interesting affairs. How far those recommendations have been complied with we will not undertake to determine; but we hold ourselves bound in duty to you to declare, that we are not convinced there has been as much diligence used in detecting and reforming abuses as there has been in committing or complaining of them.

With regard to monopolizers it is our opinion, that taxes judiciously laid on such articles as become the objects of engrossers, and those frequently collected, would operate against the pernicious tendency of such practices.

As to inferior officers employed in the public service, we anxiously desire to call your most vigilant attention to their conduct with respect to every species of misbehaviour, whether proceeding from ignorance, negligence or fraud, and to the making of laws for inflicting exemplary punishments on all offenders of this kind.

We are sorry to hear that some persons are so slightly informed of their own interests as to suppose that it is advantageous to them to sell the produce of their farms at enormous prices, when a little reflection might convince them that it is injurious to those interests and the general welfare. If they expect thereby to purchase imported goods cheaper, they will be egregiously disappointed; for the merchants, who know they cannot obtain returns in gold, silver, or bills of exchange, but that their vessels if loaded here at all must be loaded with produce, will raise the price of what they have to sell, in proportion to the price of what they have to buy; and consequently the landholder can purchase no more foreign goods for the same quantity of his produce than he could before.

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But we should be highly criminal if we did not plainly tell you that those hopes are not founded wholly on our own proceedings. These must be supported by your virtue, your wisdom, and your diligence. From the advantage of those seats in the national council with which you have honoured us, we have a pleasing prospect of many blessings approaching to our native land. It is your patriotism must introduce and fix them here.

In vain will it be for your delegates to form plans of economy; to strive to stop a continuation of emissions by taxation or loan, if you do not zealously co-operate with them in promoting their designs, and use your utmost industry to prevent the waste of money in the expenditure, which your respective situations in the several places where it is expended, may enable you to do. A discharge of this duty and a compliance with recommendations for supplying money, might enable congress to give speedy assurances to the public that no more emissions shall take place, and thereby close that source of depreciation.

Your governments being now established, and your ability to contend with your invaders ascertained, we have on the most mature deliberation judged it indispensably necessary to call upon you for forty five millions of dollars, in addition to the fifteen millions required by a resolution of congress of the 2d of January last, to be paid into the continental treasury before the 1st day of January next, in the same proportion, as to the quotas of the several states, with that for the said fifteen millions.

It appeared proper to us to fix the first day of next January for the payment of the whole; but as it is probable that some states, if not all, will raise part of the sums by installments or otherwise before that time, we recommend in the strongest manner the paying as much as can be collected as soon as possible into the continental treasury.

Though it is manifest that moderate taxation in times of peace will recover the credit of your currency, yet the encouragement which your enemies derive from its depreciation and the present exigencies demand great and speedy exertions.

We are persuaded you will use all possible care to make the promotion of the general welfare interfere as little as may be with the ease and comfort of individuals; but though the raising these sums should press heavily on some of our constituents, yet the obligations we feel to your venerable clergy, the truly helpless widows and orphans, your most gallant, generous, meritorious officers and soldiers, the public faith and the common weal, so irresistibly urge us to attempt the appreciation of your urgency, that we cannot withhold obedience to those authoritative sensations.

On this subject we will only add that as the rules of justice are most pleasing to our infinitely good and gracious Creator, and an adherence to them most likely to obtain his favour, so they will ever be found to be the best and latest maxims of human policy.

To our constituents we submit the propriety and purity of our intentions, well knowing they will not forget, that we lay no burthens upon them, but those in which we participate with them—a happy sympathy, that pervades societies formed on the basis of equal liberty. Many cares, many labours, and may we not add reproaches—are peculiar to us. These are the emoluments of our unsolicited stations; and with these we are content, if you approve our conduct. If you do not, we shall return to our private condition with no other regret, than that which will arise from our not having served you as acceptably and essentially as we wished and strove to do, though as cheerfully and faithfully as we could.

Think not we despair of the commonwealth, or endeavour to shrink from opposing difficulties. No Your cause is too good, your objects too sacred, to be relinquished. We tell you truths, because you are freemen who can bear to hear the n and may profit by them; and when they reach your enemies, we fear not the consequences, because we are not ignorant of their resources.

on the appearance of a few continental troops they thought proper to retreat rather hastily, having secured only a part of their booty.

NEW LONDON, May 30.
Thursday last arrived here a sloop from Corke, bound to New-York, laden with provisions, a prize to the ship Patriot.

Sunday was sent into port the privateer Lady Erskine, capt. Drew, of eight guns, taken in sight of this harbour by the Hancock and Beaver privateers, out of a fleet of twenty-one sail, who were bound from New-York to Rhode-Island, under convoy of the Thomas, a British frigate of thirty-six guns.

had brought into this city, the dearer they have been; and this is one of the evils which it is absolutely necessary to enquire into. But the great point is to begin.

The paper I have in my hand contains some resolutions which have been drawn up and agreed on by a committee of citizens, which, with your approbation, I will read. I propose first to read the whole through, and then read it a second time by paragraphs, in order to take your sense thereon.

The paper being read, after some amendments, was agreed to as follows:

Whereas the prices of goods and provisions have, within the space of five or six months, risen to an enor-

George Schlosser, col. Will, col. Jehu Eyre, capt. Heytham, major Boyd, Philip Boehm, Jedediah Snowden, Nathaniel Donnell, capt. Robert Smith, capt. Lang, Dr. Hutchinson, William Brown, Paul Cox, Edward Pole, Thomas Cadrop, capt. George Ord, James Skinner, John Kling, William Horn, William Coats, tanner, Joseph Jean, capt. John Young, Cadwallader Dickinson, capt. Thomas Moore.

Signed by order of the meeting,
DANIEL FOBIERDEAU, chairman.

The thanks of the meeting were unanimously returned to the chairman for his noble and disinterested manner of conducting the business.

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ed for them to put their intentions into execution, by seven of the rebels jumping into their long boat to fasten the tackles and get her hoisted on board; when Mr Murphy gave the signal, and immediately knocked down the centinel and took his arms; he was bravely seconded by his two gallant companions, one of whom threw a piece of metal into the boat, which started a plank in her bottom, and then cut her painter, soon after which the and the seven rebels went down. Success crowned the endeavours of the three heroes, who after destroying twenty-four of the pirates, gave quarters to the remaining five and then proceeded for the vessel out of which they retook, an hour and a half after noon.

Capt. White of here from Georgia, the royal army, and crossed the river Savannah the 17th ult. to where they surprized thousand congresses and fifty, took aboard the remainder, into the woods able prizes during of Feb. named the with indigo and capt. Slow, in an the twenty-fifth ult. Charlestown, laden of which says, that boat arrived from twenty thousand for America, under and that their embargest expedition the Spaniards for the navy of Great-Britain France.

WILLIAM

By advices which received from the Illr the governor of Det party of regulars, C the post of St. Vinc by a small detachment brave col. Clarke, in this event, to the on one desperate effort acquisitions, detern consisting of about the place, and make The arrangements ludicrous as the enterlic found Mr. Han which he immediately, that in eighteen ers. A scalping party had sent out, re render of it to the Aplices of their success geance due to their has sent in govern judge of the court at about 25 prisoners. New-London, in Bet col. Clarke sent with was murdered by the patches destroyed; it tity of goods brought rewarding the barbar taken at the same time

A letter from the governor Hamilton complains that since the de partants were all getting tired

The enemy, by the la the town of Suffolk, dep lundered its inhabitants where they are taking their depredatory exu

To shew the barbar those invaders of our the following facts, at one of the parties of Philipp, Thomas Wal Bowoin, who were of school near Suffolk, county, were overtaken and after striking one most abusive language knee buckles, hand cloaths they had, they might think themselves the Hessians instead of have robbed them, by How are the laurels of women and boys are vengeance!

Several deserters have inform, that their de many others were de the bad usage they

PHILIP

By capt. Newton Washington, who on in 11 days from Pr there from several Lincoln's having rolins, somewhere taken 1400 of them ticulars.

SIR,

Being in the gre have not time to gi tion, concerning th therefore to inform nearly the same as was men with regard to the number of the troops, which landed

and took Portsmouth, and afterwards proceeded, burnt, plundered and destroyed Suffolk, committing various barbarities, we are still ignorant, as the accounts from deserters differ widely; perhaps, however, it may not exceed 2000 or 2500 men.

I trust that we have a sufficient number of troops stationed in certain proportions at this place, York, Hampton, and on the south side of James's river.

When any further particulars come to my knowledge, they shall be communicated to Congress without delay. I have the honour to be, Sir, your humble servant,

or our own. Let your good sense decide upon the comparison. Let even their prejudiced understandings decide upon it; and you need not be apprehensive of the determination.

Whatever supposed advantages from plans of rapine, projects of blood, or dreams of domination, may heretofore have amused their inflamed fancies, the conduct of one monarch, the friend and protector of the rights of mankind, has turned the scale so much against them, that their visionary schemes vanish as the unwholesome vapours of night before the healthful influences of the sun.

An alliance has been formed between his Most Christian Majesty and these states, on the basis of the most perfect equality, for the direct end of maintaining effectually their liberty, sovereignty and independence absolute and unlimited, as well in matters of government as of commerce. The conduct of our good and great ally towards us in this instance and others, has so fully manifested his sincerity and kindness, as to excite on our part correspondent sentiments of confidence and affection.

Observing the interests of his kingdom, to which duty and inclination prompted his attention, to be connected with those of America, and the combination of both clearly to coincide with the beneficent designs of the Author of Nature, who unquestionably intended men to partake of certain rights and portions of happiness, his majesty perceived the attainment of these views to be founded on the single proposition of a separation between America and Great-Britain.

The retentment and confusion of your enemies will point out to you the ideas you should entertain of the magnanimity and consummate wisdom of his Most Christian Majesty on this occasion.

They perceive, that selecting this grand and just idea from all those specious ones that might have confused or misled inferior judgment or virtue, and satisfied with the advantages which must result from that event alone, he has cemented the harmony between himself and these states, not only by establishing a reciprocity of benefits, but by eradicating every cause of jealousy and suspicion. They also perceive with similar emotions, that the moderation of our ally, in not desiring an acquisition of dominion on this continent, or an exclusion of other nations from a share of its commercial advantages, so useful to them, has given no alarm to those nations, but in fact has INTERESTED them in the accomplishment of his generous undertaking to dissolve the monopoly thereof by Great-Britain, which has already contributed to elevate her to her present power and haughtiness, and threatened if continued to raise both to a height insupportable to the rest of Europe.

In short, their own best informed statesmen and writers confess, that your cause is exceedingly favoured by courts and people in that quarter of the world, while that of your adversaries is equally reprobated; and from thence draw ominous and well-grounded conclusions, that the final event must prove unfortunate to the latter. Indeed, we have the BEST reason to believe that we shall soon form other alliances, and on principles honourable and beneficial to these states.

Infatuated as your enemies have been from the beginning of this contest, do you imagine they can now flatter themselves with a hope of conquering you, unless you are false to yourselves?

When unprepared, undisciplined, and unsupported, you opposed their fleets and armies in full conjoined force, then, if at any time, was conquest to be apprehended. Yet what progress towards it have their violent and incessant efforts made? Judge from their own conduct. Having devoted you to bondage, and after vainly wasting their blood and treasure in the dishonourable enterprize, they deigned at length to offer terms of accommodation with respectful addresses to that once despised body the congress, whose humble supplications ONLY for peace,

Done in CONGRESS by unanimous consent, this twenty-sixth day of May, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine.

JOHN JAY, PRESIDENT.

Attest. CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.



ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the OLD PRINTING-OFFICE in Charles-Street.

Extra of a letter from Washington, May 23. The enemy have at length quitted us, after plundering Portsmouth and the adjacent country in a most cruel and barbarous manner. The merchandise in the town is carried off, and the provisions to such a degree as to leave the inhabitants in the utmost distress and misery. They are undoubtedly returned to New-York. Suffolk is entirely burnt, together with a very large quantity of provisions, goods, &c. The invasion was so sudden that scarce any thing escaped them at Portsmouth. In my opinion, 8,000.

liberty and safety, they had contemptuously rejected, in preference of its being an unconstitutional assembly. May these desires of seducing you into a deviation from the paths of rectitude, from which they had so far and so rashly wandered, they made most specious offers to tempt you into a violation of your faith given to your illustrious ally. Their arts were as unavailing as their arms.—Foiled again, and stung with rage, embittered by envy, they had no alternative, but to renounce the glorious and ruinous controversy, or to resume their former modes of persecuting it. They chose the latter. Again the savages are stimulated to horrid massacres of women and children, and domestics to the murder of their masters. Again our brave and unhappy brethren are doomed to miserable deaths in galls and prison-ships. To complete the sanguinary system, all the "EXTREMITIES of war" are by authority denounced against you.

Piously endeavour to derive this consolation from their remorseful fury, that "the Father of Mercies" looks down with disapprobation on such audacious defiance of his holy laws; and be further comforted with recollecting, that the arms assumed by you in your righteous cause, have not been sullied by any unjustifiable severities.

Your enemies despairing however, as it seems, of the success of their united forces against our main army, have divided them, as if their design was to harrass you by predatory, desultory operations. If you are assiduous in improving opportunities, Saratoga may not be the only spot on this continent to give a new denomination to the baffled troops of a nation impiously priding herself in notions of her omnipotence.

Resolve yourselves therefore, that this campaign may finish the great work you have so nobly carried on for several years past. What nation ever engaged in such a contest under such a complication of disadvantages, so soon surmounted many of them, and in so short a period of time had so certain a prospect of a speedy and happy conclusion. We will venture to pronounce that so remarkable an instance exists not in the annals of mankind. We will remember what you said at the commencement of this war. You saw the immense difference between your circumstances and those of your enemies, and you knew the quarrel must decide on no less than your lives, liberties and estates. All these you greatly put to every hazard, resolving rather to die freemen than to live slaves; and justice will oblige the impartial world to confess you have uniformly acted on the same generous principle. Consider how much you have done, and how comparatively little remains to be done to crown you with success. Persevere; and you ensure peace, freedom, safety, glory, sovereignty, and felicity to yourselves, your children, and your children's children.

Encouraged by favours already received from infinite goodness, gratefully acknowledging them, earnestly imploring their continuance, constantly endeavouring to draw them down on your heads by an amendment of your lives and a conformity to the divine will, humbly confiding in the protection so often and wonderfully experienced, vigorously employ the means placed by Providence in your hands, for completing your labours.

Fill up your battalions—be prepared in every part to repel the incursions of your enemies—place your several quotas in the continental treasury—lend money for public uses—sink the emissions of your respective states—provide effectual support expediting the conveyance of supplies for your armies and fleets, and for your allies—prevent the produce of the country from being monopolized—effectually superintend the behaviour of public officers—diligently promote piety, virtue, brotherly love, learning, frugality and moderation—and may you be approved before Almighty God worthy of those blessings we devoutly wish you to enjoy.

(XXXIVth) M A

BO Extra of a million for individual the British trade, and reprisals for May 20. Since from South-Carol continent.

On Monday last Port from Marti ships had been re ships as to make that admiral Byro ture out, as sick his feet.

Last Sunday 1 seat into New-L 10 guns, from N Since our last ports from Statis ports of the West ported, that adm were still at their ay capital mover disposition at bot ferority of Byro That not long 1 war of the line, far from Martin pried of it, tent take care of the detachments, be general action.

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Thursday 70 tons, cap bour, by the General Sul Martindale. Providence Monmouth tender, and bove. Her A midshipn nown man

Early on Rhode-Isa lected a cor on the ap thought pr only a part N Thurin to New-Yo Parnan Sunday capt. Drey bour by the feet of tw York to a British

purpose.—subscriptions are taken in at his office. FREDERICK GREEN.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

F R I D A Y, J U N E 1 1, 1 7 7 9.

B O S T O N, M a y 2 7.

Extra of a letter from Philadelphia, April 15. VESSEL just arrived from Surinam mentions, that a Dutch man of war had arrived there just before she left it, in 31 days from Amsterdam, and brought accounts that the States General, on the repeated and violent remonstrances of their merchants, had given permission for individuals to fit out vessels to cruise against the British trade, and had granted letters of marque and reprisals for that purpose.

May 10. Since our last, four vessels have arrived here from South-Carolina, laden with rice, belonging to the continent.

On Monday last, capt. Parsons arrived at Newbury-Port from Martinico, and informs, that count d'Estaing had been reinforced with such a number of capital ships as to make his fleet superior to the British; and that admiral Byron lay at St. Lucia, not daring to venture out, as sickness raged with great violence on board his fleet.

Last Sunday the Hancock and Beaver privateers, sent into New-London, the Aylcough, a privateer of 10 guns, from New-York.

Since our last several vessels have arrived at different ports from Statia, Martinico, Guadalupe, and other parts of the West-Indies; by these vessels we have it reported, that admiral Byron and the count d'Estaing were still at their old stations, without having made any capital movement. Some attribute this to a pacific disposition at bottom of both courts; others to the inferiority of Byron in seamen, and of the count in ships. That not long since admiral Byron sent four men of war of the line, and a number of frigates, to cruise not far from Martinico; the count, as soon as he was apprised of it, sent a number of the line and frigates to take care of them; this motion drew out, by successive detachments, both fleets, but without producing any general action.

By the above vessels we learn, that count d'Estaing, having embarked his troops, and made such dispositions as indicated some enterprise in view, all the island of St. Kitts was in arms, expecting a visit from the French fleet, and every precaution taken there for the defence of the island.

One of the last vessels from the West-Indies informs, that a large number of store ships, with some ships of force, had arrived at Martinico from old France; this is probably the fleet mentioned to have sailed from France to the West-Indies, by the cutter not long since arrived here, and which left Brest the beginning of March. This reinforcement, it is said, will give the fleet of France a superiority of strength to that of the British in those seas.

By the same channel we are informed, that two ships of the line, belonging to the Squadron of admiral Byron, were hauled up at St. Lucia for want of men, each of them having buried three hundred of their sailors.

In a speech which admiral Keppel pronounced before his judges of the court-martial, he did honour to the behaviour of count d'Orvilliers and his fleet during the combat.

P R O V I D E N C E, M a y 1 5.

Yesterday arrived here two men, belonging to a vessel from Guadalupe bound to Boston, which had been captured by the enemy, and retaken by the Eagle privateer, of New-London, late commanded by capt. Conkling. They inform, that the Eagle had taken and manned seven prizes, all which are safe arrived in port, and that her crew having been reduced to 13 men and boys, with 17 prisoners on board, the latter rose and took possession of the vessel on Sunday evening last, murdered capt. Conkling and all his crew, except the doctor and 3 boys, and carried the privateer into New-York.

The continental sloop Providence, capt. Hacker, arrived in port on Tuesday last with two prizes; one of them a brig of 12 guns, a British cruiser from New-York, which was taken after a sharp conflict of three hours; the enemy had 28 men killed and wounded, and capt. Hacker 4 killed, and 3 wounded. The other prize is a valuable ship, with 400 tierces of rice.

Thursday morning arrived here a prize sloop of about 70 tons, captured the preceding day, off Newport harbour, by the armed boats Seven Brothers; capt. Hoxley, General Sullivan, capt. Oman, and Bradford, capt. Martindale. She was bound from the island of New-Providence to New-York, and had been taken by the Monmouth privateer, of Salem, recaptured by a British tender, and again retaken by the armed boats, as above. Her cargo consists of rum, molasses, fruit, &c. A midshipman and four seamen, belonging to the Renown man of war, were made prisoners.

Early on Saturday morning last a party of Tories from Rhode-Island landed at Point-Judith, where they collected a considerable number of sheep and cattle; but on the appearance of a few continental troops they thought proper to retreat rather hastily, having secured only a part of their booty.

N E W - L O N D O N, M a y 2 0.

Thursday last arrived here a sloop from Corke, bound to New-York, laden with provisions, a prize to the ship Patagon.

Sunday was sent into port the privateer Lady Erskine, capt. Drex, of eight guns, taken in sight of this harbour by the Hancock and Beaver privateers, out of a fleet of twenty-one sail, who were bound from New-York to Rhode-Island, under convoy of the Thomas, a British frigate of thirty-six guns;

Tuesday arrived here the privateer American Revenue, capt. Leeds, and brought in with her the privateer schooner Sally, capt. Spelling, of eight guns; and also a schooner (pilot boat built) from North-Carolina, bound to the West-Indies, laden with tobacco and tar, who had been taken by a British privateer.

Yesterday was sent into this port, by the ship Oliver Cromwell, a schooner from Baltimore, burthen about thirty tons; she had been taken by a British cruiser, and was retaken the south side of Long-Island.

T R E N T O N, M a y 1 6.

The detachment of the enemy that landed in Bergen county on Monday the seventeenth inst, consisted of about 1000 men, composed of several different corps, under the command of col. Van Burkirk. Their path in this incursion was marked with desolation and unprovoked cruel murders. Not a house within their reach, belonging to a whig inhabitant, escaped. Mr. Abraham Allen and George Campbell fell a prey to these more than savage men. Two negro women, who were endeavouring to drive off some cattle belonging to their masters, were also murdered. Mr. Jooit Zabriskie was stabbed in thirteen different places. Col. Van Burkirk, although he was formally acquainted with those barbarities, yet he did not think proper to take the least notice of the perpetrators. Having in some measure fatiated their appetite for blood and plunder, and dreading the vengeance of our militia, which by this time was collecting in considerable numbers, the enemy precipitately retreated to their boats, and went off to New-York.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, M a y 2 7.

At a general meeting of the citizens of Philadelphia, and parts adjacent, at the state-house yard in this city, general Roberdeau was unanimously requested to take the chair, who introduced the business with the following address.

Gentlemen,

ALTHOUGH I feel pain from the situation in which you have been pleased to place me, it is with pleasure I meet you, my fellow-citizens, to consider and determine upon measures for our mutual and public happiness. A beneficent God has hitherto blessed us with success, and carried us through a four years war with as few misfortunes as could possibly be expected. We have much to be thankful for; and though many worthy individuals have greatly suffered, yet, as a nation, we have but little to complain of.

The dangers we are now exposed to, arise from evils created among ourselves. I scorn, and I hope every citizen here scorns, the thought of getting rich by sucking the blood of his country; yet, alas, this unnatural, this cruel, this destructive practice, is the greatest cause of our present calamities. The way to make our money good is to reduce the prices of goods and provisions. It is not the quantity of money which any man gets—but how far that money will go when he comes to lay it out again, that makes him poor or rich.

The tax that has been laid upon us by monopolizers and forestallers within these six months past, for it may justly be called a tax, amounts to more money than would carry the war on twelve months to come.

There is at present no law for regulating the prices in the shops and markets, neither is there any law to prevent such regulations being made, and therefore the whole rests upon the virtue and common consent of the community. I have no doubt but combinations have been formed for raising the prices of goods and provisions, and therefore the community, in their own defence, have a natural right to counteract such combinations, and to set limits to evils which affect themselves.

It is impossible, gentlemen, to cure the disease all at once, but it must be begun upon; and as this city appears to be the place in which the disease was first bred, this likewise is the place where the remedy ought to be first applied. Do you, gentlemen, set the example, and I think there is little doubt but others will follow it.

Within these five or six months goods and provisions have risen week by week.—Surely, gentlemen, we can do as much as the monopolizers have done, and bring the prices down again week by week. By this means there will be money to spare, to pay taxes with; for at the rate things now are, it takes all the country people's money to go to the shops with, and all the town people's money to go to market with, and the whole community is growing poor under a notion of getting rich.

Some worthy citizens who have the success of our glorious cause at heart, have undertaken to form a plan for regularly reducing the prices of goods and provisions, and keeping up the value of the money, and this plan, as I understand, is to be laid before you at some future meeting. For my own part, gentlemen, I shall joyfully assist in any judicious measures for the public happiness, and have no doubt but you will do the same.

It is a surprising thing that the more goods we have had brought into this city, the dearer they have been; and this is one of the evils which it is absolutely necessary to enquire into. But the great point is to begin.

The paper I have in my hand contains some resolutions which have been drawn up and agreed on by a committee of citizens, which, with your approbation, I will read. I propose first to read the whole through, and then read it a second time by paragraphs, in order to take your sense thereon.

The paper being read, after some amendments, was agreed to as follows:

Whereas the prices of goods and provisions have, within the space of six or six months, risen to an enormous height, far beyond what they ought to be in proportion to the quantity of the money. The prices of dry goods have arisen when they ought to have decreased, and every new cargo, instead of lessening the prices, have raised them.

Resolved, That the public have a right to enquire into the causes of such extraordinary abuses, and prevent them.

And whereas, since the late importation of a cargo of goods said to have been since purchased or consigned to the management of Mr. Robert Morris, merchant, or others, the prices of all kinds of dry goods have been greatly advanced, to the injury of the public and the great detriment of trade,

Resolved, That this meeting, justifying their conduct on the necessity of the measure, and being deeply affected and injured by those increasing evils, will appoint a committee to enquire of Mr. Robert Morris, or others, what part he or they have acted respecting the said cargo, and to require from him or them their answers in writing to such questions as the committee may find it necessary to put, and to report the same at the next general town meeting.

And whereas the prices of rum, sugar, flour, coffee, and tea, have greatly arisen within this week past, without any real or apparent cause; and as it is our determination not to be eaten up by monopolizers and forestallers, therefore

Resolved, That we do unconditionally insist and demand, that the advanced, or monopolized, price of the present month be instantly taken off, and that the prices of those articles be immediately reduced to what they were the first day of May inst.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to ascertain the retail prices of rum, sugar, flour, coffee, and tea, as they stood on the first day of May inst. and to publish the same for the government of buyer and seller, and to receive in writing any complaint against such dealers as may refuse to comply with, or shall obstruct the execution of this necessary regulation, and to report the same at the next general town meeting.

Resolved, That the said committee, when chosen, do ascertain what the prices of the above, or any other articles, were on the first day of January last, and likewise on the first day of every month from that time to the present inst.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare a plan for regularly proceeding in this business, and for carrying it into execution throughout the United States, and to report the same at a general town meeting to be held for that purpose.

Resolved, That we will support the committees in the execution of their duty, encourage fair and honest commerce, and suppress to the utmost of our power, and at the hazard of our lives, engaging, monopolizing, and forestalling, and depreciation.

Resolved, That as it is the interest both of town and country to concur in measures for the mutual relief of both, that the proceedings of this meeting be printed and sent to the several counties for their consideration and assistance therein.

And whereas complaints of a very extraordinary nature have, at different times, appeared against persons intrusted, or who have been intrusted by congress with the disposal of public money, and the execution of public commissions, to which complaints, in some instances, no answers have been given, or any denial made.

And whereas the public by delegating their powers, have a right to call on their representatives to whom that delegation is made, to know in what manner the trust so reposed in them is executed, therefore

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to collect together the charges or complaints which have been made against persons intrusted by congress, with the expenditure of public money, or the execution of public commissions, and to require of the delegates of this state what proceedings congress have made therein towards ascertaining the truth of such charges or complaints, or punishing the persons if guilty; and to transmit the same to the several counties, in order that they may be enabled to give instructions to their representatives in assembly at their next meeting; or for such other purposes as may be necessary in the interim.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that no person, who by sufficient testimony can be proved inimical to the interest and independence of the United States, be suffered to remain among us, and that the committee be directed to take measures for carrying this resolution into execution.

The following gentlemen were appointed on the committee, to enquire respecting the cargo lately arrived, and said to be purchased by or consigned to the management of Mr. Robert Morris, or others.

Timothy Matlack, David Rittenhouse, capt. Blewer, Thomas Paine, Charles W. Peale, col. J. B. Smith.

And the following gentlemen, together with the former, were appointed a committee for carrying the other resolves into execution.

Col. Henry, col. Bradford, George Schlosser, col. Will, col. John Eyre, capt. Heynam, major Boyd, Philip Boshm, Jedediah Snowden, Nathaniel Donnell, capt. Robert Smith, capt. Lang, Dr. Hutchinson, William Brown, Paul Cox, Edward Fole, Thomas Cadrop, capt. George Ord, James Skinner, John King, William Thorn, William Coats, tanner, Joseph Lean, capt. John Young, Cadwallader Dickinson, capt. Thomas Moore.

Signed by order of the meeting,

DANIEL OBERDEAU, chairman.

The thanks of the meeting were unanimously returned to the chairman for his noble and disinterested manner of conducting the business.

COMMITTEE ROOM, May 26, 1779.

AGREED to a resolution of the general town meeting held in the state-house yard the 25th inst. the committee for ascertaining the prices of rum, sugar, flour, coffee and tea, as they stood on the first day of the present month, do hereby publish the following:

Table listing prices for various goods: West-India rum, Country rum, Tea by the chest, Brandy by the keg, Molasses by the hoghead, Coffee, Loaf sugar wholesale, Muscovado, Common French salt, Merchandable flour, Middling ditto, Ship Stuffs, Shorts, Bran.

To our fellow-citizens in town and country.

Convinced as we all are of the absolute necessity of lowering the prices, in order to raise the value of the currency, and seriously anxious of carrying the resolutions of the meeting into effect...

N. B. The committee have the pleasure of informing the public, that molasses and salt are cheaper this day than they were on the first of May.

May 28. Resolved, That the retail prices of the underwritten articles, on the first day of May, were as follow:

Table listing prices for coffee, Bohea tea, Loaf sugar, Muscovado, West-India rum, Country rum, Whiskey, Rice.

And as it is absolutely necessary that dry goods, and all other commodities, whether imported, or the produce of this country, should fall in price as well as those articles which are already published, therefore

Resolved, That this committee do earnestly request and expect, that no person do sell any commodity whatever, at an higher price than the same was sold for on the first day of this month.

May 31. Notice is hereby given, that the committee will ascertain, as soon as possible, the wholesale and retail prices of goods as they stood on the first day of April last, and that the prices to be fixed in consequence thereof, are to become current on the first day of July next ensuing, and to remain so till the next regulation.

The prices, as they are already fixed, being reduced to what they were on the first day of May, are to remain in being for the month of June, or as much cheaper as buyer and seller can agree.

Resolved, That it be recommended to our fellow-citizens in the country, who supply the markets in this city with produce and provisions; that they likewise lower their prices.

Resolved, That if any inhabitant or inhabitants of this city shall be detected in offering or giving an extravagant price for any articles brought to market, such person or persons, whoever they may be, shall be summoned to appear at the coffee-house on that, or the calling, market day, or at the next general town meeting, as the case may require.

Resolved; That an enquiry be made into the old and present rent of houses.

And whereas the numerous articles of dry goods, and variety of their assortments, render it difficult to ascertain and fix their several values; the committee do therefore earnestly recommend to the public to be as slack in making purchases for the present as their necessity will admit of.

And whereas, in the present time of general suffering and resentment, it may happen that innocent persons may, by mistake, be exposed to the unmerited censure of their fellow-citizens, while those who truly deserve it escape.

Resolved, That a committee of three do sit by rotation at the court-house, from nine to twelve every day, (Sundays excepted) to receive complaints, and to report the same to the general committee.

Resolved, That this committee will not take on themselves to determine the punishment due to any person or persons who shall transgress the resolves of the general town meeting; but that after having ascertained the

facts, will leave such person or persons to make their peace with the public the best way they can, unless desired to interpose.

By order of the committee, WILLIAM HENRY, chairman.

In CONGRESS, May 28, 1779.

THE board of treasury having reported, "that in their opinion it will be impracticable to carry on the war by paper emissions, at the present enormous expenses of the commissary general, quarter-master-general, and medical departments—that it appears to them that a general opinion prevails, that one cause of the alarming expenses in these departments arises from allowing commissions to the numerous persons employed in purchasing for the army, and that a very general dissatisfaction has taken place on that account among the citizens of these United States—and that in their opinion it is necessary to put the said departments on a different footing, with respect to the expenditure of public money"

Resolved, That the same be referred to a committee of three, and that they be directed to report a plan for the purpose.

The members chosen, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Huntington, and Mr. Burke.

Whereas it is indispensably necessary that the greatest economy should be introduced in public expenditures,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to make strict enquiry into the establishments and contingent expenses of the respective boards and departments, and to consider and report the retrenchments and reformations which shall appear to be practicable and expedient; and that they have power to call for returns from the offices, and for information from the officers of any department; and to confer thereon with the commander in chief.

The members chosen, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Sherman, and Mr. Scudder.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to consider the most advisable mode of negotiating a foreign loan, to what amount, and in what manner the same may be most advantageously applied to the use of these states.

The members chosen, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Laurens, and Mr. Smith.

Ordered, That the report of the committee, appointed to confer with the commander in chief, dated Feb. 2, 1779, be referred to the said committee.

Extract from the minutes, CHARLES THOMSON, secr.

FISH-KILL, June 3.

Last Lord's day (31st ult.) 1500 men landed eight miles below Peck's-Kill, on Faller's Point, consisting of British and Hessian grenadiers, light-infantry, volunteers of Ireland, and Yagers—Monday the 1st inst. the enemy landed a party on the west side of the river, where they burnt some houses, and opened two small batteries, from which they threw some shells, and cannonaded fort de la Fayette across the river, all that day; two galleys kept up a severe fire on the fort at the same time. They continued their firing till 11 o'clock on Tuesday forenoon; mean while their army marched from Faller's to Ver Plank's point, on which the fort stands; by a flag they demanded a surrender; the parley continued two hours; capt. Armitrong thought fit to surrender. General McDougal has not yet received a justifiable reason why the fort was given up. This little fort was built on purpose to secure King's ferry, from the insults of the enemy's vessels, which frequently had interrupted our boats from crossing; it was small, and would contain, with convenience, about a company of men; the redoubt was strong, and covered a barrette battery, mounting 3 pieces of cannon; we had in the barrette a company of artillery; they were all drawn off but a sergeant, a corporal, and 12 privates; in the redoubt were a captain, two subalterns, three sergeants, and 24 rank and file. They had provisions and water to serve them thirty days.

Wednesday evening.—The wind now prevents the shipping from advancing to Fort Clinton on West-Point; which, we suppose, is the enemy's main object; the fort is now in tolerable order, well provided, and the men in fine spirits—the militia are coming in fast, and every appearance is promising.—The enemy have come out in force, and, it is said, are from 7 to 10,000 men.—Their troops, from their late excursion to Virginia returned last Thursday, and without landing at New-York pushed up the river.

Thursday morning 4 o'clock. We learn that the enemy are in motion, as if they meant to come up the east side of the river.

Athol's highlanders, called the 74th, who arrived at New-York some weeks ago, are all the reinforcements the enemy have yet received, that we can learn.

Since the British landed, we have taken 7 prisoners, and 3 deserters have come in.

Yesterday it was reported, that the enemy had burnt lieut. gov. Cortlandt's house, near Croton river, where they first landed.

BALTIMORE, June 3.

On Saturday last, the sloop Washington, capt. Burrows, of this port, arrived here from St. Eustatius, which he left the 23d ult. This gentleman informs us, that it was confidently asserted, at that island, the day he left it, that the French fleet (which appears to be still commanded by count d'Estaing, the count de Gras being second in command) had put to sea from Martinico, completely fitted and manned, and consisted of 25 ships, 19 of which were of the line; that, in consequence of this event, the British fleet, under admirals Byron and Barrington, of 26 ships, 19 of which are capital ones, immediately put to sea from St. Lucia; and that as these formidable fleets were observed to be in sight of each other, on the 20th ult. to leeward of Dominica, it was thought, at St. Stasia, that a great and important naval engagement would speedily take place.

A letter from St. Eustatius advises, that in the course of a fortnight, upwards of 60 sail of American vessels

arrived in that island. Several of them belong to Philadelphia and this port.

The British armament, which lately left Portsmouth in Virginia, has been seen, within a few days, standing to the southward, destined, no doubt, for South Carolina or Georgia.

The sloop Rutledge, capt. Killing, of this port, was lately taken by the Long Splice, a British cruiser, and carried into Antigua.

Mr. James White, a gentleman of reputation, this moment arrived here from Edenton in North-Carolina, brings the agreeable intelligence of the defeat of the British army, from Georgia, before Charlestown, in South-Carolina, which, by a rapid march, they had invested, on or about the 19th ult. having, it is said, been encouraged to commit that rash act by their evil counsellors the Tories.—The particulars of this great event are gone forward to congress, by express; and may be speedily expected here. Mr. White obtained his information of the hon. Mr. Hewes, of Edenton, who, just as he left that place, favoured him with the perusal of a late letter from Charlestown, advising, that the enemy's force, supposed to be under the command of gen. Prevost, consisted of 3700 men; that they cannonaded the town upwards of 3 hours to little effect, killing but a or 3 of the garrison during the night, which was suddenly raised by the gallant exertions of gen. Moultrie and his troops, who had, to the number of 1500, previously entered the town, aided by count Pulaski, his corps, and a noble band of citizens, who have all gained immortal honour—that a party of volunteers closed the scene before the town, from whence the enemy fled with the utmost precipitation, leaving 553 of their number dead on the spot, and did not halt until they had run 10 miles—that they had but 2 or 3 days provisions left; and as 4500 men, under gen. Williamson, had advanced within 15 miles of Charlestown, and gen. Lincoln, at the head of 2700 more, had entered Jacksonborough, on Ponpon river, (36 miles from that capital) and taken all the enemy's baggage, burning the village, at the same time, for lack of magazines inhabitants; it was generally believed the remnants of the enemy's defeated army must inevitably surrender themselves prisoners.—Mr. White adds, that the express from Charlestown reported, that during the siege of that place, a great tumult had been raised by a number of disaffected inhabitants, which would have given success to the enemy, had it not been checked by the execution of forty traitors.

ANNAPOLIS, June 11.

We hear that the count d'Estaing left Port-Royal on the 22d of May, with twenty-one sail of the line, four of which had joined him from the coast of Africa, where they had destroyed seven settlements for the English. Byron put out from St. Lucia the same day, and the fleets were in sight, so that an engagement was expected. The count d'Estaing expected M. Le Motte Piquet with five sail more of the line. Two sail of the line and one merchant ship of 60 guns are expected in the bay of Chesapeake.

Capt. Barry has arrived at Philadelphia with four sail of merchant men, loaded with sugar and coffee.

The London Gazette of March 16, contains an account of the surrender, by capitulation, of the town of Pondicherry, on the 17th of October, to the East-India company's troops, after a siege of two months and ten days. This town is situated on the Coromandel coast, and is the principal settlement of the French in the East-Indies.

TREASURY OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, April 3, 1779.

ORDERED, That all persons who have been entrusted with public money before the 25th day of March last, (and who are not accountable to the auditors of the army, or the commissioners of accounts at Albany) immediately transmit their accounts to the auditor-general for settlement, on failure whereof they will be prosecuted without further notice.

By order of the board of treasury, JOHN NICHOLSON, clerk.

The several printers throughout the United States are requested to insert this notice, and continue it in their papers six weeks.

Worcester county, Maryland, May 28, 1779.

NOW in the goal of this county, a NEGRO man called COLLINS, belonging to a gentleman (he says) living in New-Virginia, whose surname is Bell, and that he left him at Dover, in Kent county, in Delaware, some time in October, 1778; he is a small black fellow, about 25 years of age. His master is desired to come and pay charges and take him away.

W8 BENJAMIN PURNELL, Sheriff.

FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Annapolis, May 10, 1779. LOST by the subscriber, the time when lost uncertain, one State Loan-Office Certificate for 60 Dollars, No. 431, dated 24th July, 1778, payable to Mrs. Jean Stewart in three years from that date.

Any person, on delivering the above-mentioned Certificate to the subscriber, or to Mr. Benjamin Harwood at the Loan-Office in Annapolis, shall have the above reward immediately paid them, and if offered for sale, those to whom it may be offered are requested to stop the same, and to make the person offering give an account how it came into their possession. It can be of no use to any but the owner, as payment is from the Loan-Office.

JAMES DICK.

April 20, 1779.

ANY persons that are lawful heirs to Hugh Gloyd, late of Talbot county, in Maryland, deceased, by enquiring of Zadock Botfield, in same county, may hear of something to their advantage.

MARYLAND GAZETTE

FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 1779.

From the LONDON GAZETTE Extraordinary.

St. JAMES'S, March 17.

Copy of a letter from major-general Munro to the lord viscount of Sandwich, his majesty's principal secretary of state.

MR. LORD,

Pondicherry, Oct. 27, 1778.

I HAVE the honour to inform your lordship of the success of the East-India company's troops against Pondicherry, after a siege of two months and ten days, from the first investing the place. The town surrendered by capitulation on the 17th of October, and I have sent herewith the terms of capitulation. I have to request your lordship will be pleased to lay them before his majesty; and as I have been so fortunate as to have had the honour of commanding troops that have reduced a place of such consequence to the British settlements in India, my utmost wish is to have his majesty's approbation of my conduct. As your lordship may wish to be informed of the operations of the troops during the siege, I have the honour to send you the following account:

On the eighth of August, part of the troops intended for the siege encamped on the Red Hill, within four miles of Pondicherry, but it was the twenty-first before a sufficient number of troops were assembled so that we could attempt to advance. On this day we took possession of the Round Hedge, within cannon shot of Pondicherry, which prevented all communication with the town by land. On the sixth and seventh of September we broke ground, both on the north and south side of the town; it having been determined to carry on two attacks; and on the eighteenth we opened our batteries with twenty-eight pieces of heavy artillery, and twenty-seven mortars. Though our fire on the town was very great, yet the enemy's was equally so on us from day-break till towards the evening, when our batteries had apparently the advantage, and the fire from the fortrets decreased greatly. The approaches were continued with the utmost expedition possible; but the obstinate defence of the garrison made it necessary to act with caution, and the violent rains that fell retarded the works. A galley being carried into the ditch to the southward, a breach made in the bastion called L'Hospital, and the faces of the adjacent bastions being also destroyed; it was resolved to pass the ditch by means of a bridge of boats made for that purpose, and to assault the place; while, on the north attack, our batteries had ruined the east face of the north-west bastion, and a float was prepared to pass the troops over the ditch at the same time; another attack was to have been made on the sea side to the northward, where they had stockades running into the water: This was intended to have been put into execution the fifteenth of October, before daylight; but in the forenoon of the fourteenth, the water in the ditch to the southward was so raised by the rains for two or three days before, that it forced itself into the gallery, broke it down, and damaged the boats intended for the bridge. It required two days to repair the damage done; and every thing being ready for the assault, it would have taken place on the seventeenth, but on the sixteenth M. Bellecombe sent me a letter by his aid de camp M. de Villette, relative to a capitulation, which was signed by both parties the next day. The gallant defence made by M. Bellecombe will ever do him honour; and I beg leave, in justice to the troops I had the honour to command, to assure your lordship, that they acted with the most determined resolution on every occasion. I am in a most particular manner obliged to Sir Edward Vernon, and his majesty's squadron, who most cheerfully gave every assistance during the whole siege; and when the assault was resolved on, Sir Edward landed his marines and two hundred seamen, to assist in the attack.

I have the honour of sending your lordship herewith a return of the killed and wounded on both sides, together with a list of cannon and stores taken in Pondicherry. These dispatches will be delivered to your lordship by ensign Mumbold, of the sixth regiment of foot, who obtained his majesty's leave to come to India with his father the governor of this settlement. He has acted as one of my aid de camps since I have been on this coast; and as I have great reason to be perfectly satisfied with his conduct, I beg leave to recommend him to your lordship as a young man of merit. He takes with him the colours of Pondicherry, to have the honour of laying them at his majesty's feet. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) HECTOR MUNRO.

By the articles of capitulation the garrison of Pondicherry, after piling their arms, are permitted to march out with the honours of war, and to proceed to Madras, where, be in its neighbourhood, they are to be properly accommodated, till ships can be provided to carry them to France.

Return of guns, mortars, shot, small arms and powder, taken in Pondicherry, 1778.—Serviceable; three 36 pounders, eighteen 24 ditto, thirteen 18 ditto, thirty 12 ditto, sixty 8 ditto, forty-four 6 ditto, eleven 4 ditto, two 3 ditto.—Unserviceable; one 36 pounder, eighteen 24 ditto, three 18 ditto, one 12 ditto, five 8 ditto, one 4 ditto.—Total serviceable; 281.—Unserviceable, 29.

Brass guns.—Serviceable; six 12 pounders, six 8 ditto, one 6 ditto, eighteen 4 ditto, four 3 ditto, two 2 ditto, eighteen 1 ditto.—Unserviceable; three 1 pounders.—Total serviceable, 35.—Unserviceable, 3.—Howitzers, six three inch and half.

Brass mortars.—Serviceable; seven 12 inch, five 8 ditto, two 7 ditto, four 6 ditto, two 4 ditto.—Total 20.

Iron mortars.—Serviceable; two 12 inch, one 8 ditto.—Total 3.

Small arms.—French musquets and bayonets 3934, ditto without bayonets 248, rifle barrel pieces 108, wall pieces 69, carbines 45, pistols 356, swords 930, gun-powder 80 barrels, 160lb. each; shot of different sizes, 21,708.

T. MANNOUNG, commissary of stores.

Return of the killed and wounded of the companies troops, at the siege of Pondicherry, 1778.—European officers, 8 killed, 27 wounded; ditto cavalry, 2 wounded; ditto artillery, 17 killed, 61 wounded; ditto infantry, 48 killed, 214 wounded; Seapoys 148 killed, 482 wounded; his highness the nabob's troops, three killed and seven wounded.—Total 224 killed, 693 wounded.

(Signed) H. A. M. COSBY, adj. gen.

The company's troops consisted of 10,500, of which 1,500 were Europeans.

Return of the killed and wounded in the garrison of Pondicherry, 1778. (nearly)—European officers, 7 killed, 19 wounded; reg. of Pondicherry, 45 killed, 143 wounded; European artillery, 29 killed, 69 wounded; Seapoys, 52 killed, 94 wounded; citizens, 3 killed, 7 wounded; black labourers, 64 killed, 148 wounded.—Total 200 killed, 480 wounded.

The garrison of Pondicherry consisted nearly of 3,000 men, of which 900 were Europeans.

ADMIRALTY OFFICE, March 16, 1779. Capt. Geo. Young arrived this afternoon from the East-Indies, with dispatches from commodore Sir Edward Vernon to Mr. Stephens, of which the following are copies.

[Duplicate, the original not yet come to hand.]

SIR, Rippon, off Madras, Aug. 16, 1778.

I SEND this to the governor and council of Fort St. George, to be forwarded by the first opportunity, to desire you will acquaint the lords-commissioners of the admiralty, that I sailed from Madras on the 29th part, with his majesty's ships Rippon, Coventry, Seahorse, Cormorant sloop, and Valentine and Glatton India ships. On the thirty-first finding the Glatton to be a sailor, and ill equipped, I ordered her back to Madras, and requested of the governor and council another ship to replace her. On the eighth inst. at six P. M. I appeared with the squadron off Pondicherry, chasing a French frigate into the road. At eight A. M. detried from our main head six sail to the S. W. which we stood for, but there being such light airs of wind, we could make nothing of them till the tenth, when at six A. M. we saw five sail bearing down upon us in a regular line a-breast.—We stood for them, forming our line ahead with the four ships, and at noon brought to so, ready to receive them. At three quarters past noon, the breeze shifting to the seaward, gave us the weather gauge, when I immediately made the signal to bear down upon the enemy, who had formed upon the starboard tack. I intended forming our line on the larboard tack, till the leading ship had stretched abreast of their rear, then to have tacked and formed opposite the enemy's ships, but having so little wind, and the uncertainty of a continuance, I thought it necessary to bring them to action, which at three quarters past two became general, and at times extremely close. About three quarters past four the enemy made sail upon a wind to the S. W. Having received great damage in our masts, sails, and rigging, I hauled to the N. E. in hopes of securing the weather gauge, to bring them to action again the next morning. We were employed the whole night and morning in reefing, splicing, and knotting our rigging, getting up a main-top-sail yard and fore-top-mast, the others being destroyed. We stood to the N. E. with light airs of wind until midnight, and then tacked to the S. W. but at daylight on the eleventh could see nothing of the enemy. I have since used my utmost endeavours to appear off Pondicherry again, but from little winds, those southerly with a strong northern current, have been prevented. Their lordships may be assured I will lose no time in attaining it, and if I can meet with the enemy, to bring them to a decisive battle, winds and weather permitting. The ships we engaged were the Brillante, of sixty-four guns, Fourvoysie, of thirty-six eighteen pounders, the Sarrtine of thirty-two guns, and two of their voluntary ships armed as ours, whom I am just now informed got into Pondicherry road the evening of the action, to rest. The Besborough India ship, which the governor and council of Fort St. George had ordered to replace the Glatton, joined me the fourteenth. Herewith you have a list of the killed and wounded, on board the ships under my command, in the action of the tenth.

I hope my proceedings will meet their lordships approbation, and am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant.

E. VERNON.

Rippon, four killed, 15 wounded. Coventry, one k. 20 w. Seahorse three k. five w. Valentine India ship, two k. nine w. Cormorant sloop, one k. four w.—Total, eleven killed, sixty-three wounded.

E. VERNON.

Philip Stephens, Esq; sec. of the admiralty.

Madras, October 11, 1778.

I AM to acquaint you, for the information of the right hon. the lords commissioners of the admiralty, that I wrote to you on the sixteenth of August by the Valentine (a duplicate of which I herewith enclose) that the winds and currents prevented me regaining my station until the twentieth at midnight, when I anchored between Pondicherry and Cuddalore. About four o'clock in the morning of the twenty-first, upon sight

of a frigate sail standing into the Squadron, I made the signal, weighed, and gave chase; at daylight, saw the chase had French colours hoisted, which on a few shot being fired at her from the Rippon and Seahorse, were struck; she proved to be the Amiable, Nannet, from Rochelle and L'Orient, last from Mauritius, for Pondicherry, in ballast. At the same time I could see the French Squadron under way in Pondicherry road, standing to the N. E. under an easy sail, but the land breeze failing me before I could get near enough to the enemy to engage, and the sea breeze not setting in before five o'clock in the afternoon, and then so very faintly as hardly to keep the ships under command, which, with night drawing on induced me to drop all thoughts of bringing them to action until the next morning. I then stood in for Pondicherry road, and came to an anchor, expecting the French Squadron would do the same, as they shewed no design of going off; but when daylight appeared, could see nothing of them, nor have they ever looked near Pondicherry since that day. On the twenty-fifth at daybreak, saw a strange sail very near us, standing in for Pondicherry, upon which I made the Coventry and Seahorse signals to weigh and chase her, who immediately stood out to sea, with all the sail she could crowd; and to prevent losing company with the frigates, I weighed and stood out after them; about half past eleven o'clock A. M. saw the Seahorse engaged with the chase, who soon after struck, and proved to be the Sarrtine frigate, one of M. de Trunajoly's Squadron, who had lost company a few days before in chase. She is a fine ship, only two years old, and a prime sailer; had when she was taken only twenty-six nine pounders mounted, but as she is larger and scantling than any of our thirty-two gun frigates, I purpose if war is declared, ordering the naval store keeper to purchase her for his majesty's service. From that time I closely blocked up the road of Pondicherry. On the eighteenth of September our batteries on shore were opened against the works of the town, upon which they continued to play until the 16th inst. in the morning, when (every thing being ready for a general assault that night, having at general Munro's request, previously landed two hundred and sixty men from the Squadron to assist in the attack) M. Bellecombe thought proper to send out a flag of truce, offering to capitulate, upon which hostilities ceased on both sides; and I have the pleasure to acquaint their lordships, that articles of capitulation were signed on the seventeenth, and our troops put in possession of the town accordingly. During the siege, the ships of the Squadron took three other small vessels bound to Pondicherry.

I cannot omit mentioning to their lordships the assiduity with which the governor, general and council of Bengal fitted out and armed two ships, mounted with forty guns each, which joined me on the first inst. and are now acting under my orders; as also the zeal shewn for the public service by the president and council of Fort St. George, in so readily reinforcing the Squadron under my command with three of the company's European ships armed, which on the reduction of Pondicherry I dismissed, that they may proceed on their respective voyages. I have farther the pleasure to acquaint their lordships, that the greatest harmony and good understanding has subsisted between the army and navy during the whole of this campaign.

I have appointed captain Marlow, of the Coventry, to be captain of the Rippon; in the room of captain Young, whom I have thought a proper person to take charge of my dispatches for their lordships, and his majesty's secretary of state.

I beg leave to recommend captain Young to their lordships notice, and to refer them to him for any further particulars they wish to be informed of respecting the operations of this last campaign in India. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant.

E. VERNON.

Philip Stephens, Esq; secretary to the admiralty.

BOSTON, May 24.

Last Saturday arrived in a safe port a prize snow, laden with sugar, &c. She was cut out of a harbour in Newfoundland, by a boat belonging to this place; the boat also took a brig laden with provisions, bound for Quebec.

We hear a letter of marque returned from her voyage into Salem last Thursday, and brought in with her a prize schooner, laden with rum and sugar.

We hear that the privateer ship Pilgrim, from Beverly, hath taken two valuable prizes, both of which are safe arrived, one laden with about 3500 bushels of fish, the other with flour.

Monday last a small schooner sailed from this port for the West-Indies, but was taken off George's Banks on Wednesday, and brought into this port by the crew last evening.

May 27. Monday last arrived here captain _____, in 75 days from Rotterdam, by whom we learn, that a fleet was to sail from Cork for the West-Indies, the latter end of February—transports are ordered to Portsmouth, to take in provisions and troops for Jamaica—an attempt has been made to burn the dock-yard at Plymouth, and another to destroy that at Portsmouth, and great rewards have been offered for apprehending the offenders—the court of Great Britain keep and pay for all the cargoes taken from the Dutch, but they are very discontented at it, as they want them for other uses—the mobs have done much mischief in England and Scotland, on account of the papists being allowed the free exercise of their religion in the former, and the attempt or it in the latter—Lord Howe has refused to be first lord of the admiralty—all the Howe papers to the ministry, in 1775, 1776, 1777, and 1778, are to be laid before the parliament at the House request—

tions hand-bills are frequently printed and handed about England—America has many friends in Holland, &c. &c. &c.

TRENTON, June 2. On the 20th ult. the brigantine Delight, capt. James Dawson, from Tortola to New-York, mounting twelve guns, with twenty-nine hands, came ashore in a fog on Beck's beach on Cape May.

PHILADELPHIA, June 8. Extra of a letter from a seaport town in Massachusetts Bay, dated May 16, 1779.

Privateering was never more in vogue than at present—two or three privateers sail every week from this port, and men seem as plenty as grasshoppers in the field; no vessel being detained an hour for want of them.

June 10. By a gentleman from Virginia we learn, that captain Siedler having formed a company of hunters to join colonel Clark, on their way surprised two Indian towns, and killed about two hundred of the savages.

We are just informed, that the Hornet and Monmouth privateers have taken a sloop of fourteen guns and sixty men, bound from New-York on a cruise.

June 10. On the 26th ult. the brig Monmouth, of 14 guns, captain Ingersoll, fell in with the privateer sloop Jenny, captain Noble Caldwell, of 12 guns, within sight of Sandy Hook, whom he soon obliged to strike to the American flag.

All officers in the marine department, residing to the southward of Hudson's river, who have heretofore been taken by the enemy and permitted to come out from them on parole, before the 15th of May last, are exchanged, and are at full liberty to act in such department as their duty to their country calls them.

Extra of a letter from Port au Prince, dated May 16, 1779. "The French are making great captures, and daily bringing them to this and other ports in the island. A few days since arrived the Prudent and Active frigates, with seven prizes; one of 30 guns, one of 20 guns, several brigs and a sloop. I presume they will shortly deprive those islands of all their cruisers."

Affairs abroad strike a great damp on our enemies, and we think the war will not be of long continuance.—America will secure her trade and independence. The inhabitants in the British islands are starving for bread. I have met with several gentlemen lately from Jamaica, who inform me they get no supplies, and they wish heartily to conciliate measures with America; but it is now too late, the current of vengeance is turned upon the head of the destroyer.

Extra of a letter from St. Eustatia, dated May 21. "Yesterday a ship arrived here in fifty-one days from Amsterdam, in which came passengers two French gentlemen, who inform, that on the 26th of March advice was received there, that the court of Spain had acknowledged the independence of America, and consequently would join France in the war against Great-Britain."

"Two ships of the line, were lately sent from France to the coast of Africa, in order to destroy all the forts, factories, &c. belonging to the English, which they effectually performed, keeping possession of one fort only, in which they left a garrison of 300 men; they took 1800 negroes, and a considerable quantity of ivory and gold dust, which they carried to Goree; the loss of which is of great consequence to the British trade in those parts. The above two ships have since joined

count d'Estaing at Martinico, who has now a fleet of 19 sail of the line and a number of fine frigates, with which he has been three times off St. Lucia, but admiral Byron did not think it prudent to come out and attack him. The French fleet in Europe daily becomes more formidable, and they have by this time forty sail of the line cruising in the channel. The chevalier de Fabry, with twelve sail of the line, is in the Mediterranean. The utmost diligence is used at Brest, Rochfort and Toulon, in building and fitting out line of battle ships, as also a number of frigates, which will carry 18 and 24 pounders; and the greatest encouragement is given to people of all-ranks, according to their merit and capacity."

IN CONGRESS, June 7, 1779. Resolved, That the commissary-general of prisoners be authorized from time to time to pay to the order of officers and soldiers in captivity, any sums not exceeding the amount of their pay and subsistence, in order to enable them to assist their families; and that he make monthly returns to the pay-master-general of their accounts respectively.

Extracts from the JOURNALS of CONGRESS. **CHARLES THOMSON, fecr.**

May 20. A letter of the 19th, from the hon. Sieur Girard, minister plenipotentiary of France, was read, enclosing a note from Don Juan de Miralles, respecting three Spanish ships taken by privateers and carried into Massachusetts Bay.

Ordered, That the same be referred to a committee of three; the members chosen; Mr. Burke, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Lovell.

May 21. Resolved, That these United States be called upon, in addition to the sum required by a resolution of congress of the second of January last, for their respective quotas of forty-five millions of dollars, to be paid into the continental treasury before the first of January next, in the proportion following:

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| New-Hampshire, | 1,500,000 |
| Massachusetts-Bay, | 6,000,000 |
| Rhode-Island, | 750,000 |
| Connecticut, | 5,100,000 |
| New-York, | 2,400,000 |
| New-Jersey, | 2,400,000 |
| Pennsylvania, | 7,000,000 |
| Delaware, | 450,000 |
| Maryland, | 4,680,000 |
| Virginia, | 7,300,000 |
| North-Carolina, | 3,270,000 |
| South-Carolina, | 5,550,000 |
| | 45,000,000 |

Georgia, being invaded is hereafter to raise her proportion.

Resolved, That the said several sums, or any greater sums, which shall be paid by any of the states into the continental treasury, shall be passed to their respective credits on interest; on the same terms as are prescribed by the resolution of congress, passed the 22d of November, 1777.

May 22. The committee to whom was referred the letter from the minister plenipotentiary of France, with the note from Don Juan de Miralles, dated May 18th, 1779, brought in a report; whereupon

Resolved, That the resolutions of congress passed on the sixth day of March last, relative to the controul of congress by appeal in the last resort over all jurisdictions for deciding the legality of captures on the high seas, be immediately transmitted to the several states, and that they be respectively requested to take effectual measures for conforming therewith.

Resolved, That the following letter be written to the minister plenipotentiary of France, and signed by the president:

Sir, Congress having taken into consideration your letter of the 19th of this month, I am directed to assure you, that as soon as the matter shall in due course come before them, they will attend very particularly to the cases of the vessels stated in the note from Don Juan de Miralles to have been sailing under the flag of his Catholic Majesty, and captured by armed vessels under the flag of the United States; and that they will cause the law of nations to be most strictly observed; That if it shall be found, after due trial, that the owners of the captured vessels have suffered damage from the misapprehension or violation of the rights of war and neutrality, congress will cause reparation to be made in such manner as to do ample justice and vindicate the honour of the Spanish flag.

That congress have every possible disposition to cultivate the most perfect harmony with his Catholic Majesty, and to encourage the most liberal and friendly intercourse between his subjects and the citizens of these United States; but they cannot, consistently with the powers intrusted to them and the rights of the states and of individuals, in any case suspend or interrupt the ordinary course of justice.

ANNAPOLIS, June 12.

On Saturday last, captain Earle, in the schooner Baltimore Hero of 12 guns, bound to St. Eustatia, in company with the brig Lively, captain Belt, the Lady Washington, captain Greenway, and four pilot-boats, fell in with two of the enemy's privateers, of 12 guns, with two prizes, off Rappahanock. Captains Earle and Belt engaged them for two hours and a half, and would in all probability have taken them, had not two brigs and schooners of the enemy bore down on them. After re-taking one of the prizes, which they sent into Rappahanock, they made the best of their way up the Bay, being chased up as high as Point no-Point. The Baltimore Hero had three of her men slightly wounded, and was much damaged in her hull, sails and rigging. Two of the Lively's men were mortally wounded, and she is also much shattered.

By his EXCELLENCY THOMAS JOHNSON, Esq. GOVERNOR of MARYLAND, A PROCLAMATION. WHEREAS the House of Senate stands adjourned to the third Monday in October next, and the House of Delegates stands adjourned to the first Monday in September next, and affairs of high importance and concern proper for the consideration of the General Assembly requiring a meeting as soon as well may be, I have therefore by this my special command, appointed Thursday the fifteenth day of July next for the meeting and holding of the General Assembly of this state, of which the several sheriffs are hereby enjoined to give public and due notice.

Given at Annapolis this seventeenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine. THOMAS JOHNSON, By his Excellency's command, T. JOHNSON, Secy.

GOD SAVE THE STATES. The printers request these persons who have written the Maryland Gazette and other papers, to inform them of having the same continued, before the middle of next month, or they will be discontinued.

To be SOLD at PUBLIC VENTURE, on Monday the 25th day of this instant June, at the house of George Manwin Annapolis, next to the afternoon, the SHIP GADSDEN of BALTIMORE and T. JOHNSON, the new GALLEY ANNAPOLIS, and the SCHOONER GENERAL HALL WOOD. A number of four pounders of Derry's make will be sold at the same time either by public or private sale.

Petersburg, Virginia, June 21, 1779.

THE ship BERNIER, now lying at Broadway, near Petersburg, in this state, is a London river built, capable of carrying 500 hogheads of tobacco, and a very good sailer; is well found with cables and anchors, completely furnished with every material necessary for a voyage, and may be got ready for sea in a fortnight; besides a complete suit of sails, she has a number of spare sails, and a quantity of rigging. The sale will be by public auction, on Thursday the first day of July next, at Mr. Bradley's tavern in Petersburg, where an inventory of her materials may be seen, and on board the ship. At the same time will be sold about 280 hogheads of prime upland tobacco that was prepared for her cargo; of which 60 are on board, the residue are in this town, and in the vicinity of Richmond, on James river.

Annapolis, June 18, 1779. **THE** partnership of BERRY and company being dissolved, all persons having any claims against the said company are desired to bring them in to the subscriber, as no further notice will be given.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Andury inhabitants of Cecil county intend to petition the next General Assembly to pass a law, empowering the justices of the said county to lay off a lot of land in some convenient situation, at or near the Head of Elk, for a gaol and court-house, and to contract with some proper person or persons to build a good and sufficient gaol thereon, and to assess at their next levy court, upon the real and personal property in said county, a sufficient sum of money, by ensuing yearly assessments, to build a gaol and court-house thereon; and that in the mean time the county and orphans courts and county elections shall be held at some convenient house at the Head of Elk.

WANTED, in All-Hallows parish, a CLERGYMAN of the CHURCH of ENGLAND, recommended for his sobriety, to whom a genteel salary will be given, and the use of a small glebe, on which is a neat and convenient house.

LEFT, at the time the British fleet went up the Bay, in August 1777, at Newington, Rope-walk, a CROSS-CUT SAW. The owner may have it again on proving property and paying the charges of this advertisement.

Worcester county, Maryland, May 18, 1779. **NOW** in the gaol of this county, a NEGRO man called COLLINS, belonging to a gentleman (he says) living in New-Virginia, whose surname is Bell, and that he left him at Dover, in Kent county, in Delaware, some time in October, 1778; he is a small black fellow, about 25 years of age. His master is desired to come and pay charges and take him away.

FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD. LOST by the subscriber, the time when lost uncertain, one State Loan-Office Certificate for 699 Dollars, No. 431, dated 24th July, 1778, payable to Mrs. Jean Stewart in three years from that date.

Any person, on delivering the abovementioned Certificate to the subscriber, or to Mr. Benjamin Harwood at the Loan-Office in Annapolis, shall have the above reward immediately paid them; and if offered for sale, those to whom it may be offered are requested to stop the same, and to make the person offering give an account how it came into their possession. It can be of no use to any but the owner, as payment is stop at the Loan-Office.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

F R I D A Y, J U N E 2 5, 1 7 7 9.

From the PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

It is remarked, and I believe justly, that the press, of late, has been considerably deflected by the best writers, and few observations have been communicated to the public upon subjects of a general and extensive nature. It may be owing to the same cause which Salustius, the historian, tells us operated with the like effect in the Roman commonwealth.

I mention this as my apology for venturing to take up the pen, and to commit my thoughts to paper. When the rarest masters have laid down the pencil, it may be allowable for young essayists to extend the canvass and express a figure.

The treaty of commerce and alliance on the part of these States with France, is the subject upon which I would propose to offer some considerations to the public. This subject has not been handled professedly by any writer, and indeed little has been said in any manner that has had relation to it.

I am induced to undertake a service of this nature, at the present time, by believing that it will be useful to the people. Great Britain, in her late advance to a negotiation, was willing to concede to these States almost every point, save that of independence. It is probable, that in a short time she will be willing to concede even this point, on condition that we rescind the treaty of commerce and alliance on the part of these States with France. This treaty, to use a less elevated language, greatly sickens her stomach. She feels it as the whale feels the harpoon which the fisherman has darted into her. She has laboured, groaned and complained of it in such strains, that we may easily perceive it is a mortal stab to her hope of subjugating this continent. It will be her first wish to pluck the harpoon from her body, and she will exert all her remaining power, life and action, to accomplish it.

The independence of these States is an idea which she cannot easily admit. Nevertheless it will become familiar to her, and I am persuaded that the time is not far distant, when she will express herself willing to admit it; on condition that we relinquish our invidious and, as she will say, unnatural alliance with the court of France. It is possible that, with the next reinforcement to her troops that shall arrive upon our coast, we may hear of new commissioners to stipulate conditions, and to make an offer of this nature.

The whigs amongst the common people, who are undoubtedly the most honest people of America, will resent the idea, if hastily and barely proposed to them. But is it not greatly in the power of just speech and argument to recommend and dress a matter to the public? And are there not men upon this continent, who are willing and are able to give an offer of this nature just speech and argument?

There are men, who, from the first moment that we meditated a resistance to the claim of Britain, have disapproved of that resistance. It was their language, that America was quite unequal to the task of carrying on a war, and that Britain, from her fleets and armies, and resources, was invincible. Therefore, as we could not easily assert our freedom, we ought to rest contented and be slaves. It has given these men the most acute pain to see the least advantage in our favour, and to be acquainted with the least circumstance that could support the hope of a prosperous issue to the contest. The idea of success on our part involved in it a strong reflection on their judgment, who had often told us, and with a kind of diabolical pretence to inspiration, almost prophesied that finally we should be overcome by Britain. It was their full opinion, and their strong assertion, that France, from whom we seemed to hope for aid, would never dare to give it. She was made to tremble at the crown of Britain, and, wherever the might seem to promise, would never have the confidence to appear in our behalf.

The generosity of France in taking us by the hand, and entering into a treaty of commerce and alliance with us, was greatly unexpected, and at the same time greatly irritating to these men. Their resentment has been almost carried off from these States, to that power which has been a late and immediate cause of disappointment to their wishes. Against this power it will be the object of their industry, by every calumny, rumour and art, to excite our apprehensions. By every feeling of their nature, they are hostile to the alliance, and by tooth and foot and nail, and the asperity of language, will endeavour the destruction of it.

These of whom I speak are open and avowed Tories. But there are others of a more ambiguous and disputed nature, called moderate men, who, though they may not be opposed to the cause for which America has drawn the sword, yet have high ideas of the power of Britain, and entertain a predilection for her. Should she propose to guarantee our independence, every thing in their opinion, will be gained for which we have contended. They will be disposed to insinuate a thousand tender and persuasive things in favour of her friendship. The nation of Great Britain was once a generous and brave nation; and though the king and ministry have discovered, in this affair, considerable obstinacy, yet the people, if they could be properly instructed, are

still attached to virtue. The circumstances of our quarrel have been necessary, in the course of things, to initiate a new dominion, and to reduce the common passions, than from any great malignity in them to injure us, who were once their children, and may be still their brothers. The revival of our old acquaintance with this people will be safe and pleasant. It will be safe, because their navy possesses the dominion of the sea, and will be able to protect us. It will be pleasant, because they are a people of the same manners and the same language.

Shall it be urged to these, that a breach of faith with France is made the condition of a guarantee of independence to the States? It will be said in answer, that fidelity belongs to individuals only, and has never found a place with nations, who are guided by the maxims of advantage, and do not scruple to rescind the pact to day which they had made yesterday, if it shall be more the policy and interest of the moment. It suited France to take us by the hand in this debate, and if it suited her, shall we continue to beseech her amity, when it has become our wisest measure to relinquish the connection.

This reasoning will be plausible, and, like the speeches of Calypso, apt to steal upon the mind of every young Telemachus; nay, apt to steal upon the minds of those of riper judgment, in whom the seeds of old affection may yet revive for Britain. The recollection of a native ground, or fields and towns which they have visited, and the acquaintances which they have formed with those from England, will operate upon the minds of many, and make them tender to the thoughts of reconciliation.

The Tories and the moderate men I call the auxiliaries of Britain to heave us from the side of France. There is yet another species of assistance which she may employ in this affair: I do not mean the argumentum vi & armis, or, in other words, the ultima ratio regum, which she has already tried, but the argumentum avarum, or the logic of a sum of money, which Machiavel and other politicians have judged to be all prevailing. When the hope of conquest by her arms has failed her, it will be natural to think of other means by which she may effectuate her purpose.

It may be said the virtue of America is made of sterner stuff than to bend to any power of gold. I acknowledge, it is evinced by former instances that there is virtue in America. But is the virtue of one or two, or an hundred men, the virtue of the whole community? Or is it certain, that because the liberality of Britain has been baffled hitherto, we shall in future time be proof to such proposals? She may another time have better fortune in her choice of individuals, upon whom to make experiment of applications of this nature. The time may yet become more favourable, though not with those already tried, yet with others, who, though they have not equal influence, yet may be bought at less expence, and will do her, if not a greatly eminent, at least a sedulous and persevering service. Time changes manners.

I would not take an oath that there is half that virtue in the towns and trading cities of these States there was at the beginning of the contest. The unequal and perpetual drifting of the currency has thrown a fortune in the hands of this one and the other in so sudden and extraordinary a manner, that, like the drawing of half a million in a lottery, it makes a noise amongst us, and the emulation of every man is up by some means or other to be alike successful. He has made his fortune, I must make my fortune, are phrasologies so common, that the ear is struck with them in every conversation. The idea catches like the electric fluid, and every man must scheme, cheat, be bribed, or speculate, in order to enrich himself. In this state and temper of the country, a gratuity will find its way with more readiness than formerly, when rectitude of morals and plainness and simplicity of living were more in countenance among us than they seem to be at present.

Circumstances may yet become more favourable to the acceptance of gratuities from Britain. When she shall propose to guarantee our independence, there will be smoother ground whereto to tread by those who shall engage to leave her. The work will not so glaringly offend the public interest. We have already seen that many things may plausibly, though wickedly, be said in its behalf; and hence it may not be altogether certain that the man who undertakes the task shall forfeit the esteem and good opinion of the people. If so, there will be less security for the uprightness of the servants of the public; for it is the dread of popular odium that keeps the one half of mankind politically honest—Take this away, and you remove one powerful guardian of their virtue. In a case therefore where there is less danger of losing popularity, there will be less unwillingness to bend to the proposal of a small donation.

It is, moreover, to be taken into view, that the service to be rendered will not appear so many so heinously iniquitous as what before must have been executed. It will be thought a lesser villainy to violate the faith of an alliance, than to stab the independence of a nation, and alienate the very citadel which it possesses. If so, those may be those who will undertake to do the one, though they may not do the other. No man is at once held and determined in the narrow path of political dishonesty. He may consent to do a smaller wickedness, who for a while would shudder at the perpetration of a greater. There is a certain point, however, beyond which the reward. If the reward is small, the service, though atrocious, will gradually diminish and appear though unjustifiable, will gradually diminish and appear innocent. In the progress of a small temptation, great iniquity is referred to a point, but a small one disappears altogether.

I advance it not as certain, what I know is but contingent, that the reinforcement every day expected on the coast will be accompanied with an embassy of new commissioners, to offer to these States an acknowledgment of them as independent, on condition that we will withdraw our lives from our alliance with the court of France. But if our exertions proper for a little while longer, it is an offer which she will undoubtedly be brought to make, and which brought to make is, there is all the reason in the world to believe she will assist the negotiation with a quantity of coin.

It has been her declaration at several of the courts of Europe, of whose attention in our favour it was her interest to deprive us, that she means not to relinquish the idea of the possession of America, but will undoubtedly accomplish it by force or by seduction. The idea of success by force will gradually desert her, and in proportion will the idea of a conquest by seduction rise upon her mind. Baffled in every enterprise by sea and land, she will remit a little the operations of her arms, and carry on a secret and unnoticed campaign by gold. I would sparingly suggest the least idea unfavourable to the virtue of my countrymen, but there are those who apprehend that a campaign of this nature is not now to institute. More, say they, of the precious metals has been infundated to the bottom of this country than people are aware of. The mystery of inquiry has already worked, and that which shall be by and by revealed. For my own part I do not know how it may be, but would hope that it is rather the over-cautious fear of prudent persons, than any sound judgment founded on the strongest and most suspicious circumstances. Nevertheless it cannot be amiss to guard against what certainly is possible, and which, should it exist in embryo, may yet come forth to give us trouble. Those who are philosophers enough to know what materials human nature is composed of, will entertain a jealousy of what the best men may do in cases of untried resistance.

For these reasons, and because I am persuaded that it would be fatal to the happiness of this country to listen to the siren voice of Britain, seducing her from the faith pledged to our great ally, I have proposed some things to brace the public mind against it, and at the same time to shew that we are safe and happy in our alliance with the court of France; and that it is our interest and our honour to support it.

In these States, where every man may rise to public stations, and is, or ought to be, acquainted with the public measures, it cannot be accounted arrogance to call himself a politician, and as it is in every place allowable that a man be conscious of upright intentions, and profess integrity, it cannot be presumption, or the boast of vanity, to say that he is honest. For these reasons, and because I am particularly fond of that epithet known amongst the common people, though it is the best policy, I shall from thence derive my signature, and in the course of these papers call myself

The Honest Politician.

The Speech of Lord George Gordon in the British House of Commons.

MR. SPEAKER,

I AM sorry to rise so soon after the meeting of Parliament, in opposition to the measure proposed by administration, and I am more especially concerned that it should be a complimentary address to our present sovereign, moved by the honourable member on the other side of the house, one of his majesty's lords of grace [hon. Charles Grey], and supported by that very respectable highland chieftain, the thane of Cawdor [Mr. Campbell]. But, Sir, many complaints cannot in reason be expected from the friends of liberty on this side of the house, to that king under whose government the court of Great-Britain has been rendered contemptible in the eyes of France, and the friendship of commerce, and alliance, of America, cut off, perhaps for ever, from his subjects.

The distresses of the people at home, and the neglect of their possessions abroad, are becoming every day more apparent and intolerable, which render it impossible for me, as one of their representatives, either to compliment his majesty, or approve of his conduct in such circumstances. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, to compliment his majesty in his present situation, would tend much more, in my opinion, to illustrate the servility of the house of commons, than to exemplify to the world any blessings of his government.

Would his commons congratulate him on his drawn battle at sea? Would they congratulate him on his retreat by land? Will they compliment him on the third year of the independence of the United States? Will they thank him for the honours and emoluments he has heaped upon his favourites during the course of the summer? particularly on the noble lord with the blue ribbon [right hon. lord North] the ostensible minister at the dismemberment of the empire. Will gentlemen rejoice and be glad at this fresh proof his majesty has given us of his practice of his professed intention to carry on the war in America? Will they declare their readiness to support more taxes on their constituents? And will they answer to his majesty for the people, in their own names, without a revolt at home?

I mention the possibility of a revolt at home, because our constitutions have been injured already; they have been patient and of long-suffering; they have felt a gradual imposition of taxes, till they have become insupportable; they have seen the revenues of the kingdom lavished in pensions to the most unaccountable characters; they have seen their trade with America cut off; and they have had a successful example of their fellow-subjects revolting from the expensive government of England, in the protection of a virtuous congress.

Prudentissimus quisque negotiosus maximus erat.

All these heavy calamities, with many more, which it would be tedious to enumerate, have been brought upon this country since the accession of the present king; which make me of opinion, that it is not now proper time to applaud his wisdom, or support his counsellors.

Truth has been said of his majesty's counsellors—I have opposed them in parliament with great constancy and firmness, and entertain as bad an opinion of their public capacity, as any gentleman on this side of the house does. But they are his majesty's chosen servants, whom he has been collecting from the different parties ever since his accession—men, I presume, after his own heart.

They proceeded in the war with our colonies according to his wishes, and America is now nearly lost to Great Britain. Their unhappy misconduct has rendered them contemptible to many of their fellow-subjects, and they have now little to depend on but his majesty's favour and firmness. Yet, Sir, I see no prospect of a real change for I don't believe his majesty will be guilty of the ingratitude to abandon (at his own choice) his obedient servants to their distress, and I do not hear, on know, that the people are about to cause a congress, or proclaim a protest.

The times, in my humble opinion, call aloud for a strong remonstrance to the king, setting forth our unparalleled grievances under his majesty's government. When the people show an inclination to demand redress, I will accompany them with the greatest pleasure, but I will not be seen complimenting when we should be calling to account.

I am afraid, Sir, I speak too loud, as that may give an appearance of passion to what I assure the house are my most deliberate sentiments. I will say no more at present, but hope to see you in yourself, Mr. Speaker, in the greatness of your authority, and oppose this designing, mischievous address to his majesty, which will be doing great honour to your own situation, and to the character of the house, and to the dignity of the people—whom God preserve!

B O S T O N , June 5.

It is affirmed as a fact, that the plan of operation for the British troops in America this year, is to kill, burn and destroy every thing they are suffered to come near, along the sea-coast, and if possible to render defenceless every port on the continent.

By a vessel in 17 days from Martinico, arrived at New-London last Friday, we have advice, that Count d'Estaing has lately been reinforced with 20 sail of French and Spanish ships of the line, which took about 30 sail of the Corke fleet bound to New-York, on their passage, and carried them into Martinico; that since their arrival Admiral Byron has been blocked up, and that Count d'Estaing may very soon be looked for in their bay.

Extract of a letter from Leach, M. Leach to Daniel M. Leach, dated New-York, dated Glasgow, Feb. 10, 1779.

I am glad to inform you that the emigrants are established.—From any preparations that I hear are making, the ensuing campaign will be as disgraceful as the former ones; and if they should send over a good many men, it will be as late as usual before they arrive there.—As for Russians, you need not look for any.

The ministry still continue immersed in the same ocean of errors in which they sea, out, and I am afraid nothing worthy of British courage or British valour will any more appear amongst us.

It is said that sixteen thousand of the enemy's troops have been detached from New-York since October last.

We have it from good authority, that there is now no naval force at Rhode-Island, except two galleys.

Yesterday arrived in a safe port, a brigantine, prize to the Boston, laden with rum, sugar, &c. The Boston we hear, has retaken from the enemy a ship with a valuable cargo, consisting chiefly of tobacco.

Extract of a letter from Rhode-Island, dated May 30.

I have seen a gentleman arrived here who was on board the count d'Estaing; in the West-Indies—the count desired him to stay and pilot him to this place—immediately he expected to be relieved immediately, and that he should be upon this coast by the 10th of June.

P R O V I D E N C E , May 30.

A gentleman who came to town on Monday from the eastward, where he arrived last week in a vessel from Cadix, informs, that the greatest warlike preparations were making throughout Spain, and an attack on Gibraltar was publicly talked of, and wished for; that upwards of 30 Spanish ships of the line, with a number of frigates, were ready for sea at Cadix the 9th of April, when he sailed; that 20,000 troops were at Cadix; Fort St. Mary, and St. Lucas; that the American privateers have been very successful in the European seas, and were allowed to sell their prizes in Spain, and rest with the same freedom as in our own ports; that the French cruizers had taken a great number of prizes, particularly two ships from the Straights, with very rich cargoes, which were captured by two frigates, and sent into Malaga; and that a few days after he sailed, he fell in with a large fleet of British transports, under convoy of several men of war.

J W P O U G H K E E P S.

On Saturday our advice was, that the enemy, after taking the little fort, marched above Peek-a-Kill, to the top of a hill, called Bald-hill, near Oyster's Village, just above which General McDougall, with a body of troops, was lying ready to attack them, and to dispute every inch of ground, if they should attempt to pass the mountains. That the enemy, however, proceeded no further than Bald-hill, where they were very cautious and particular in enquiring what forces were there, whether any of the continental troops had joined General McDougall, or not; and that they had a considerable body of the militia, and that number had a shot over the hill, but that they had not fired.

N O W P O R T , June 5.

Printed by **J. F. D. P. T. K. and S. A. M. U. B. L. C. R. E. E. N.** at the

OLD BALTIMORE OFFICE, in Charles-Street.

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joined our army, and whether it was intended to dispute with them the passage through the mountains.—To all these enquiries, the answers being unfavourable to their views, they marched back again towards their vessels, and the intelligence we had of them was, that on Saturday evening they were encamped in the woods, a little above and about Verplank's-Point, their vessels lying off in the river. On Friday the wind was entirely fair for them to come up with their vessels, if they meant to have made an attack upon the fort.—So that it is plain they neither intend to attack the fort nor our army, unless they can do it by surprise, or take us at some disadvantage. Perhaps they mean to remain at or near their present station for some time, till they have lulled our vigilance to sleep, and find us careless and indolent, or till our militia are tired out and gone home, or till they have obtained some equivalent for the expence and trouble of their preparations.

Extract of a letter, dated June 4.

The enemy came up to Bald-hill, near Continental Village, about 11 o'clock yesterday. Sir Henry Clinton headed them. A party went out at the same time to Crompond, where they burnt major Strang's house.—The enemy began to retreat about 4 o'clock, and were, by the last accounts, below Peek-Kill. The militia have turned out equal to our most sanguine expectations, among them were the most respectable characters, with their knapsacks on their backs, doing duty with the private soldier. This little part of a single state has, against the main army of a powerful nation, by their extraordinary exertions on this occasion, equalled Greece and Rome, when in the fullest enjoyment of their boasted liberty.

F I S H K I L L , June 10.

The following is an exact account of the enemy's force at King's-Ferry, &c.

East side of the river—49 companies of grenadiers; 19 ditto light infantry; 33d regiment; 4 companies lord Cathcart's legion of foot; Robinson's corps; 3 battalions of Hessian grenadiers; 4 ditto Hessian Yagers; Prince Charles's regiment, Hessians. West side of the river—12th regiment; 63d and 64th ditto. Total 4300. Returned to New-York, being the fatigued troops from Virginia—42d regiment; Irish volunteers; part of the king's guards.

We hear the enemy have robbed the inhabitants, in the vicinity of their camp, of upwards of two thousand head of great and small cattle, and have otherwise distressed them.—Twenty-one deserters have come in since last Saturday.

The Dutchess county militia, with great alacrity, have come in and joined the camp. Gentlemen of the first character, refugees from New-York, Long-Island, and others, perform duty in the army as common soldiers, zealously disposed to support their country's cause.

Extract of a letter from Albany, June 6.

The whig party of the Onondagos, to the number of 126, are come to live among the Oneidas, who are daily applying to colonel Van Schaick, the commanding officer there, to go out for prisoners. Three parties, to Niagara, Oswegatchie and Buck-Island, went out last week.—The inhabitants of this city had a meeting yesterday, and appointed a committee, to enter into similar resolves with those lately of the city of Philadelphia.—Last evening, the effigy of a man who is a dealer in hard money, was suspended on a gallows, and carried through the city. We are resolved to check the pernicious practice, which has greatly helped to ruin our currency.

W I L L I A M S B U R G , June 19.

Last Wednesday evening were brought to this city under a guard, Henry Hamilton, Esq, who has acted some years past as lieutenant-governor of the settlement at and about Detroit, and commandant of the British garrison there, under Sir Guy Carleton as governor in chief; Philip Dejean, justice of the peace for Detroit; and William Lamothe, captain of volunteers, prisoners of war, taken in the county of Illinois.

P H I L A D E L P H I A , June 22.

Last Friday a sea-faring man, late mate of a vessel, belonging to the state of Rhode-Island; but taken by the enemy, reached this city from Charlestown in South-Carolina. He left that place on the 13th of May last, the day after gen. Prevost's attack. This person assisted in the defence, having the charge of a great gun on the lines, and furnished further particulars of the happy success, which has again attended the brave gen. Moultrie, in repelling the invaders of his country. It appears, that the British forces, at the distance of eight miles, crossed the river Ashley, into the neck on which the town stands, first detaching a large corps down the west side of the Ashley, to seize fort Johnson, on St. James's Island; but this fortress had been previously dismantled. The main body pushed on for Charlestown, arriving late in the afternoon, and immediately began their attack. But by the fire of the cannon and musquetry from the lines, and the enfilade discharges from the redoubts at each extremity, and divers armed ships in the rivers on each side of the neck, they were repulsed and obliged to retreat soon after 9 in the evening, leaving 600 of the soldiery on the ground. It is to be considered as very providential, that only two of the garrison were slain during the assault; but major Buggert, a gentleman of most respectable character, was unfortunately killed by a round shot, through mistake, some hours after the enemy retired. The enemy retreated up the neck, between the Ashley and the Cooper, and measures were taken by sending armed vessels up the former, to hinder them from repairing that town, in order to join the detachment, or gain the lower shore, and it was expected the main body would have made themselves masters of the neck, and pushed up to St. James's Island, and were in boats.

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being forth immediately took 150 of their men into guard; 40 of whom, this informant says, being taken were hanged, for attempting to rise during the attack. The further particulars of this glorious event, and the great and important consequences of it, are expected.

A N N A P O L I S , June 25.

Captain Campbell, of Winchester, was in the continental service, during the late war, and was taken on Patowmack (Virginia) says: "That general Lincoln the 19th of May surprised the remains of the English army at Black-Swamp, on their flight to Savannah, and took the whole prisoners.—The Savannah, in consequence of Prevost's repulse, had surrendered, and that the whole southern states were again in quiet freedom from their cruel invaders." Captain Campbell is a gentleman of character, and had to corroborate his story with a hand bill, expressive of the same facts.

By a letter from Philadelphia we are informed, that the enemy still hold their position on the North river at King's-Ferry, but have not made a single march. General Washington has taken his position within 12 miles of this town. Deserters from the enemy come to our camp daily; perhaps this obliges them to keep so close as they do.

Fort Arnold is in a good state of defence, and the enemy's forces on both sides of King's-Ferry, amount to between 6 and 7000.

General Washington has thanked and discharged the New-York militia.

No express to Congress from South-Carolina was the post left Philadelphia, notwithstanding which, we are authorized to say, as a certain fact, that the British forces in that quarter have been defeated.

A N N A P O L I S , June 25, 1779.

The subscriber takes the liberty to inform all persons indebted to the estate of his mother, the late Mrs. Anne Catharine Green, that unless they speedily settle and pay off their respective accounts, compulsory measures will be taken in every instance; and in a particular manner he requests those hereditors under the last government, who are indebted, to pay the several sums with which they stand chargeable, or their office bonds will be put in suit.—All persons having claims on the estate are desired to make them known to

F. G. R. E. E. N., adm.

To be SOLD at PUBLIC VENDUE, on Monday the 28th day of this instant June, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the house of George Mann in Annapolis, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon,

T H E S H I P G A L L I E S B A L T I M O R E and JOHNSON, the new GALLEY ANNAPOLIS, and the SCHOONER GENERAL SMALLWOOD. A number of four years, of Dorley's make, will be sold at the same time, with or without the vessels.

June 12, 1779.

NOTICE is hereby given, that sundry inhabitants of Cecil county intend to petition the next General Assembly to pass a law, empowering the justices of the said county to lay out a lot of land in some convenient situation, at or near the Head of Elk, for a goal and court-house, and to contract with some proper person or persons to build a good and sufficient goal thereon, and to assist at their next levy court, upon the real and personal property in said county, a sufficient sum of money, by ensuing yearly assessments, to build a goal and court-house thereon; and that in the mean time the county and orphans courts and county elections shall be held at some convenient house at the Head of Elk.

June 14, 1779.

WANTED, in All-Hallows parish, a CLERGYMAN of the CHURCH of ENGLAND, recommended for his sobriety, to whom a genteel salary will be given, and the use of a small glebe, on which is a neat and convenient house.

Signed per order, **JOHN JACOBS, register.**

Worcester county, Maryland, May 18, 1779.

NOW in the goal of this county, a **NEGRO** man called **COLLINS**, belonging to a gentleman (he says) living in New-Virginia, whose surname is Bell, and that he left him at Dover, in Kent county, in Delaware, some time in October, 1778; he is a small black fellow, about 25 years of age. His master is desired to come and pay charges and take him away.

BENJAMIN FURNELL, Sheriff.

FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Annapolis, May 10, 1779. **LOST** by the subscriber, the time when lost uncertain, one State Loan-Office Certificate for 63 Dollars, No. 433, dated 24th July, 1778, payable to Mrs. Jean Stewart in three years from that date.

Any person, on delivering the above-mentioned Certificate to the subscriber, or to Mr. Benjamin Harwood at the Loan-Office in Annapolis, shall have the above reward immediately paid them; and if offered for sale, those to whom it may be offered are requested to stop the same, and to make the person offering give an account how it came into their possession. It can be of no use to any but the owner, as payment is kept at the Loan-Office.

JAMES DICK.

April 30, 1779.

ANY persons that are lawful heirs to Hugh Cloud, late of Talbot county, in Maryland, deceased, by enquiring of Zadock Bonded, in some county, may hear of something to their advantage.

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