

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1776.

to the PRINTERS of the PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE. inserting the following in your impartial paper, you will oblige a friend and customer.

"The republican spirit is indeed at bottom as ambitious as the monarchial." VOLTAIRE.

THE town has been lately amused with a new political pamphlet, intitled *Common Sense*.

This piece, though it has taken a popular name, and implies that the contents are obvious, and adapted to the understandings of the bulk of the people, is so far from meriting the title it is assumed, that, in my opinion it holds principles equally inconsistent with learned and common sense.

I know not the author, nor am I anxious to learn his name or character; for the book, and not the writer of it, is to be the subject of my animadversions.

'Tis the glory of a free country to enjoy a free press, and of this, that the sentiments and opinions of the meanest, equally with those of the greatest, are brought to view; for we know, by frequent instances, that the rich and high born are not the monopolisers of wisdom and virtue. On the contrary, these qualities are oftener to be found among the middling class in every country, who, being less dissipated and debauched than those who are usually called their betters, apply themselves with more industry to the culture of their understandings, and in reality become better acquainted with the true interests of the society in which they live.

But to my great grief, I have too often seen instances of persons, in every class of life, whose publications, at the same time they have reflected honour on the parts and genius of the authors, have been so shamefully wanting in candour as to attempt, by the cadence of words, and force of style, a total perversion of the understanding.

The pamphlet in question seems to be plainly calculated to induce a belief of three things.

1st. That the English form of government has no wisdom in it; and that it is by no means so constructed as to produce the happiness of the people, which is the end of all good government.

2d. That monarchy is a form of government inconsistent with the will of God.

3d. That now is the time to break off all connexion with Great-Britain, and to declare an independence of the colonies.

It must be obvious to every impartial eye, that the author reasons from the abuses of, against the benefits derived from, the English constitution; and after reciting these abuses concludes, very unfairly that "it is incapable to produce what it seems to promise." For an argument of this sort is to be received, it will prove perhaps rather more than the author would chuse—it would even prove that the Jewish Theocracy was quite as improper, and as incapable to produce what it aimed at, as the reprobated English government. The records of sacred history inform us, that the law was given to the people from God, and that the Great Jehovah himself condescended to call them his *chosen people*. He signally interposed in their behalf in bringing them out of bondage, in preserving them from the rage of Pharaoh's army, and feeding them in a land flowing with milk and honey, under his immediate government and laws, "written with his own finger."

And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: He will also bless the fruit of thy womb and the fruit of thy land, thy corn and thy wine, and thine oil; the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he swore unto thy fathers to give thee." Deut. vii. 13.

"Thou shalt be blessed above all people, there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle." Deut. vii. 14.

But what effects did all these extraordinary favours and promises of the Deity himself produce upon that wicked, perverse, stiff-necked people? Moses tells them.

"From the day that thou didst depart out of the land of Egypt, until ye came unto this place, ye have been rebellious against the Lord." Deut. ix. 7.

"You have been rebellious against the Lord from the day that I knew you." Deut. ix. 24.

Profane as well as sacred history informs us of the ineffectuality of the best governments and the wisest laws among a corrupt, degenerate people. It does not regularly follow, that if the people are not happy under an excellent form of civil polity, that the fault is in the government, it may be owing to the corruption of the people, and this I take to be the case in Great-Britain at this day. When the British parliament is properly balanced, and each branch of the legislature faithfully executes its duty, I think I am safe in affirming there was never yet a form of government in the world so well calculated for the happiness of a free people as this, and yet we are told by the author of the pamphlet, that the "prejudice of Englishmen, in favour of king, lords, and commons, arises as much more from national pride than reason." The world has already seen numberless instances of fine-spun political theories, which, like the quackeries of mountebank doctors are to cure all the political evils to which human nature is liable. But when the experiment is made, they become astonished at the ill success of their boasted schemes—they find a thousand little passions and interests continually interfering with their designs, and at length retire again to their closets, and hagrined they had not thought it necessary to study the great volume of human nature, before they ventured to say what was the best for mankind.

The author, after venting his spleen against the English form of government, comes next to consider the

subject of monarchy and hereditary succession; in treating which, he plainly discovers the utmost prepossession in favour of a republic. I shall not follow him through his scripture quotations, which he has so carefully garbled to answer his purpose, but beg leave to oppose some authorities to it.

The celebrated Trenchard, in No. 60, of Cato's letters, says, "There is no government now upon earth, which owes its formation or beginning to the immediate revelation of God, or can derive its existence from such revelation: It is certain, on the contrary, that the rise and institution, or variation of government, from time to time, is within the memory of men or of histories; and that every government, which we know at this day in the world, was established by the wisdom and force of mere men, and by the concurrence of causes evidently human."

"Nor has God by any revelation nominated magistrates, shewed the nature or extent of their powers, or given a plan of civil polity to mankind." (Trench. Mor. Philos. p. 272.)

"There being no natural or divine law for any form of government, or that one person rather than another should have the sovereign administration of affairs, or have power over many thousand different families, who are by nature all equal, being of the same rank, promiscuously born to the same advantages of nature, and to the use of the same common faculties, therefore mankind is at liberty to chuse what form of government they like."

"God's providence or permission suffered his own peculiar people the Jews to be under divers governments at divers times; at first under patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, &c. then under judges, Othniel, Ehud and Gideon; then under high priests, Eli and Samuel; then under kings, Saul, David, and the rest; then under captains and high priests again, as Zerobabel, Judas Maccabeus and his brethren; and the government was lastly taken from them, and they brought under the power of Rome. And tht God permits such magistrates or magistrates as the community think fit to approve, is plain by the testimony of holy scriptures; when God said to Solomon, "I will be king over you, even all the judges of the earth." Prov. viii. 16.

"When the sons of Samuel were judges over Israel, they took bribes and perverted judgment, therefore the elders of Israel desired Samuel to make them a king; and though the elders are only mentioned to have asked a king of Samuel, they seem to have been deputed from the whole congregation; for God said unto Samuel, "Hearken to the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee." 1 Sam. viii. 4-7.

"And Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before the Lord." 1 Sam. x. 25. "It is plain the manner of the kingdom signifies the constitution of the government, by which was meant the conditions on which Saul was to be king, and they his subjects; for though God had given him the crown, it was to rule the people according to justice and laws."

"After the battle between Saul and the Ammonites, Samuel said to the people, Come, let us go to Gibeon; and there they made Saul king before the Lord." 1 Sam. xi. 1, 5, 6, 7, 14, 15. Now therefore behold the king whom ye have chosen; and behold the lord hath set a king over you." 1 Sam. chap. xii. 13.

I here latter quotations are taken from the great lord Somers's book, called "The judgment of whole kingdoms and nations concerning the rights of kings and the people." This nobleman was lord high chancellor in king William's reign, and was remarkable for his revolution principles, great learning, and unshaken integrity in public and private life.

It does therefore from the foregoing testimonies appear that monarchy (especially a limited one, such as that of England) is not consistent with the holy scriptures, as is set forth in said pamphlet, but that it is as pleasing to the Almighty, if agreeable to the people, as any other form of government, even the author's beloved republic.

The writer next proceeds to inform his readers of the numerous wars and scenes of blood acted in England under their kings, and asserts that "Monarchy and succession have laid the world in blood and ashes." "This a form of government which the word of God bears testimony against, and blood will attend it." Here are bold assertions indeed. To the latter part I have already endeavoured to make some reply, so far as he asserts it is contrary to the word of God; but will the author's candour permit him to inform his reader of the infinite distractions and mischiefs which have happened in the ancient and modern republics. Under this form there are always two parties, which divide the whole body of the people, and an eternal warfare subsists between them for power. The contest is dreadful enough, but whichsoever party prevails, there is no rod heavy enough, no sword sufficiently sharp, to punish those whom they have subdued. It then becomes a many headed monster, a tyranny of many.

Let any man read, with an unprejudiced eye the accounts which historians give us of the famous Grecian commonwealths and I will venture to speak for him, that he will not bestow great commendations on them.

The Athenians, a wise and polished people, very often banished their best citizens, from an apprehension of their power—a glorious reward for a virtuous citizen, who, as was the case in more instances than one, had preserved his country from destruction. In the latter times of the Carthaginian and Roman republics, what constant scenes of blood and devastation does history present to us. The multitude in a perpetual ferment like the ocean in a storm—in a storm did I say—like the waters of the sea, agitated by a dreadful whirl-

wind, nothing but the fury of one party encountering the rage of another—very trace of humanity being thus lost, men change their natures and become as fierce and savage as wolves and tigers.

But let us descend nearer to modern times—let us look for happiness and security in the republic of Holland, so often mentioned, and so little known—let us recollect the fate of the two brothers, Cornelius and John de Witt, Dutch ministers, who were massacred by the people in the year 1672. Holland itself, from being a republic, is become a downright aristocracy. Liberty did not continue long in that country, notwithstanding the blood and treasure that were expended to acquire it. The people, so far from being free, have had no voice for many years past in the election of persons to represent them in the states general, nor have they any thing to do in the forming of laws by which they are to be governed. Whenever one of the members of the assembly is filled up without any interference of the people and this important change was made in the state because of the intolerable feuds and animosities which attend the elections of representatives. Had they been to have chosen a king, what dangerous and destructive tumults it have produced. Founded on the woful experience of ages, it is now become a general fixed opinion, that hereditary is preferable to elective monarchy, on account of the terrible disorders, outrages and confusion which usually attend the election of a king; a pregnant instance of which, in our times, is the kingdom of Poland.

In our own history, we see what was the effect of the much wished for commonwealth, after the death of the tyrant Charles—it did not produce liberty—it presently ended in arbitrary power. The moment almost after the reins of government fell from Charles's hands, Cromwell took them up, and governed the nation with absolute sway.

I cannot agree with the author of the pamphlet in opinion, that this is the time to declare an independence of the colonies. His ought to be the dernier resort of America. Let us not yet lose sight of the primary object of the dispute, namely, a safe, honourable, and lasting reconciliation with Great Britain, until we are under a necessity of doing it. If an advantageous accommodation can be had, and a free constitution for this country be established on mutual agreement and compact, it will be better and happier for us. But if justice is still denied us, and we are to contend for liberty by arms, we will meet them in the field and try our manhood against them, even to the spilling the blood of every brave man we have. Should the ministry have recourse to foreign aid, we may possibly follow their example; and if it be essential then to our safety to declare an independence, I would willingly embrace the necessity.

RATIONALIS.

LONDON, November 13.

The earl of Ossory, and his brother the hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick, and Mr. Vernon, it is said, have joined the minority. It is lamented, that the duke of Marlborough's name has not yet been seen in the list of those who disapprove of the present ruinous measures. It is high time that men of great property should see the great stake they have in this desperate, bloody game, which a crotch faction are playing with America. A few considerable English gentlemen were to withdraw their support, we should speedily have peace with America; and of course there would be an end to both the hazard and the expence of this disgraceful war. But the Scotch, having nothing to lose, are for carrying it on with other people's money; flattering the closet with plans of success, and with high notions of prerogative and supremacy to keep their places. To the low machination of these men, are owing all the brawls, mischiefs, errors, follies and violences, which, so long as language shall exist, will distinguish, disgrace, and stigmatize the present reign in the history of mankind.

Nov. 22. The seven regiments said to be sailed from Ireland, are it is said, gone with seven men of war to Virginia, to resent the treatment on Lord Dunmore. They are to burn every place within shot of the ships on the coast.

The Wheatheaf, capt. Martin, from Maryland for London, with wheat, is safe arrived at Dover, after being beat about in the channel for several days.

Extra of a letter from Chatham, Nov. 18.

"The following ships are now fitting out at this port, with all possible dispatch for America, viz. Jersey 60 guns 1150, Brune 32, Flood 32, Repulse 34, Flora 32, Emerald 32, Miltord 28, Carysfort 28.

Nov. 23. Letters just received in town from Spain advise, that the most amazing warlike preparations are now carrying on in that country; at Madrid orders are given to raise 15,000 men, and half the king's household troops have received orders to be in readiness to march on the shortest notice.

The imports and exports at the custom-house the last month fell short as follows: imports 7000l. exports 13,279l.

Nov. 25. The principal outlines of the plan adopted for the spring campaign in America, are the following. The army is to be increased to 20,000 effective men. Detachments from this army are to be sent to New-York, Virginia, and some of the other provinces. The forces being thus distributed, a general attack will ensue, and whilst attempts are made to harass the provinces by land, the ships of war will be actively employed in scouring the American seas and cutting off all means of succour.

The new regiments of foot, we are informed, are going to be raised with all possible dispatch.

the admiralty-office, ready to sign as soon as ever the new American bill takes place.

A bill is preparing, and will be hurried through both houses, for condemning the vessels of all nations which are found trading with America. Many have been already taken, but it is not determined that they shall be for the use of the captors, or the state; the latter it is expected, will secure the emoluments, under the idea of reimbursing government for their amazing expence.

The following is an account which gen. Gage has laid before the ministry of the force which the several colonies can not only raise, but maintain in the field well armed.

New-England	37,000
New-York	11,000
Pennsylvania and the Jerseys	16,000
Virginia and Maryland	13,000
Carolinæ	5,000

82,000

This, it is very well known here, is not the whole of their force; but if the account is a true one, what can 25,000 men do against them?

The Russians are making great preparations for commencing war with the Swedes as soon as the season will permit them to act. Nine thousand five hundred men are sent from Petersburg to Archangel to bring the ships round from that port as soon as the frosts break up. The shipwrights are employed at Cronstadt repairing the fleet at that port. At Petersburg they are employed in the repair of the Russian galleys, which are all kept under cover, and may be worked upon all the winter: they are likewise employed at Revel in refitting the fleet at that department, and providing stores of all kinds necessary for a vigorous campaign in the spring.

Nov. 28. The 33d regiment of foot, of which lord Cornwallis is colonel, is ordered to America, instead of the 52. Lord Cornwallis is to command the expedition to South-Carolina and Virginia.

A letter from Dublin says, "By letters from Sligo we have the melancholy account of several ships wrecked upon the north coast of this kingdom, and among the number a transport, which contained three companies of the 46th regiment, bound for America."

House of Commons. Yesterday, a few minutes after 3 o'clock, Mr. alderman Oliver made his motion; he was seconded by the lord mayor of London. It was couched in the following terms: That an humble address be presented to his majesty, requesting that his majesty would be graciously pleased to impart to the house, who were the original authors and advisers of the following measures, before they were proposed by parliament: The taxing America without consent of its assemblies, for the purpose of raising a revenue; for the extending the jurisdiction of the courts of admiralty and vice-admiralty; for taking away the charter of the province of Massachusetts Bay; for restraining the American fishery; for exempting murderers from trial in America; for transporting accused colonists to England to be tried for offences committed in America; and more especially for establishing popery and despotism in Canada.

A little after six the main question was put, and it was rejected on a division, 163 against it, 10 for it.

Nov. 30. A 90 gun ship is ordered to be fitted up with all speed, in the most commodious manner, for the reception of the commissioners, who soon after Christmas are to embark for America, to settle the terms for a reconciliation between them and England.

The following is the conclusion of Mr. Wilkes's speech in the house of commons on Monday, when Mr. Oliver made his motion: "Whoever did advise the measures lately pursued, which have lost half our empire, I consider as a criminal of so deep a dye, that his head would be a just sacrifice to the honour of England and the peace of America. The word impeachment I hope will strike terror to the ear and heart of a wicked and arbitrary minister, and that the noblest and most important prerogative of this free people, secured to us by our great deliverer, king William, in the act for the further limitation of the crown, and better securing the rights and liberties of the subject, will soon have its full effect, that no pardon under the great seal of England be pleadable to an impeachment by the commons in parliament."

A correspondent has sent us the following interesting and authentic account of the late conference between the governor of Canada and the deputies from the Indians, communicated to him by a gentleman who was at the conference.

The governor, seated at the east end of the great church in Montreal, surrounded by his officers, addressed the sachem, who sat at a convenient distance from him, towards the west, in the midst of the Indians, to the following purport: "I am to inform you that the provincials have taken arms against our king and yours, that a few of his majesty's troops have forced the lines of the rebels on Bunker's hill, and have taken 5000 prisoners; that I apprehend the greatest part of the rebels will lay down their arms, in consequence of this defeat; but if they should not, I must request you to take up the war-hatchet against them."

The sachem rose up and replied, "Ever since you took this country from the French, we have looked upon you and upon the Americans as our brethren. We believe that we have one father, and we cannot take any part in this quarrel."

The governor said, "That if the rebels should proceed, and attack this country, he must command them, in the name of their king and his, to take up the war-hatchet and oppose them."

The sachem replied, "At the conclusion of the last peace the war-hatchet was buried forty fathoms deep, and they did not know where to find it; they would have nothing to do in this unnatural war; that he did not speak his own sentiments only, but (stretching out his arms) the sentiments of all around him, (letting his hands on his side, he added) whose mouths speak through my mouth." His attendants hummed thrice in approbation.

The governor told him, "they must dig up the war-hatchet, and employ it against their enemies."

The sachem replied, "The handle is rotten we cannot use it;" and departed with his attendants.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, December 1.

On the second reading of lord North's bill for prohibiting all trade and intercourse with the colonies in rebellion, the following clause was objected to by the

of or belonging to the inhabitants of the said colonies (wherever the same shall be found) together with their cargoes, apparel and furniture, and all other ships whatever, with their cargoes, apparel and furniture, which shall be found trading in any port or place of the said colonies, or going to trade, or coming from trading, in any such port or place, shall become [a blank for confiscated] to his majesty, as if the same were the ships and effects of open enemies, and shall be so adjudged, deemed and taken, in all courts of admiralty, and in all courts whatever." This they considered as a cruel declaration of war against the Americans, which will frustrate all plans of a reconciliation.

It was likewise urged that the sending commissioners to treat, if this bill is to pass into a law, would be an idle and expensive measure; that the bill was of a piece with all those other oppressive and irritating acts which had roused the colonies to resistance; we first forbade their intercourse with any other nation, and were now about to put the finishing stroke to their accumulated injuries, by cutting off their intercourse even with ourselves; that this would stimulate them to publish that code of laws, which we were certain they had prepared; that, exasperated beyond all degree of forbearance, they would immediately declare themselves a free and independent people; and throw open their ports to all nations, by which we might, in all probability, be involved in the difficulties of a foreign war, at that critical moment when we were most torn with civil broils and domestic distraction. Administration remarked the inconsistency of the arguments advanced on the other side of the house; when an army was to be voted, an army would be certainly ineffectual—it would be much more expedient to withdraw our troops, and carry on a naval war only, and now that bill was brought in to give greater effect to our naval operations, they were as warm against that measure as they had been against the army; that in short they seem to have but one object in view—that of impeding every measure of administration, right or wrong. Whatever force this argument might have, it was supported by one still more effectual—a majority of near four to one; for on the division there were for the bill, 207; against it 57.

The bill was then read a second time, and committed for Tuesday next, after which the house adjourned to Monday.

Dec. 2. It is confidently reported, that gen. Gage advises an immediate reconciliation with America by all means, and that gen. Burgoyne seconds his opinion.

Dec. 5. The Polly, Ayre, the King George, Carey, the Marquis of Rockingham, Boyman, the Savile, Brown, the Navy Transport, Wilton, the Emanuel, Spencer, the Earl of Oxford, Twyman, the Golden Rule, Thompson, the Nancy, Jerrell, the Union, Wallace, the Myrtle, Burton, and Admiral Sheldon, Mather, (all transports) bound for America, are waiting in the Downs for a favourable wind.

Dec. 7. This day, the speaker of the house of commons was not seated till half an hour after three o'clock. As soon as some trifling business was finished, Mr. Alderman Oliver rose, and in his place presented to the house a petition from the merchants, planters, and others concerned in the trade and commerce of the West-India islands, setting forth the very great detriment and the distress the present bill before the house for prohibiting all trade and intercourse with America during the present rebellion, would bring on the said islands, and praying such relief as to the house may seem meet, or that the same may be put into a law. It enumerates, among other things, the great quantities of bread, flour, rice, Indian corn, live stock, and other provisions; also lumber and various other articles, absolutely necessary and requisite for the sustenance and for carrying on the trade of the sugar islands.

Extra of a letter from Gosport, Dec. 6.

"The ships fitting in this harbour for Boston are greatly distressed for want of men, although so many rendezvous are opened in London, Bristol, &c. inasmuch that the people belonging to the guardships are lent to assist the rigging them."

Dec. 8. The clause in the American restraining bill, which occasioned the greatest debate at its second reading, was at length settled as follows:

"And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that this act, so far as the same relates to the capture and forfeiture of ships and vessels belonging to the inhabitants of the above mentioned colonies, shall commence and be in force from and after the first of January 1776; and so far as the same relates to the capture and forfeiture of all ships and vessels that shall be found trading in or at any of the said colonies, or bound and trading from any port or place in the same, from and after the first of June next; and shall continue to be in force so long as any of the said colonies shall remain in a state of rebellion and disobedience."

Another amendment we hear is, that all seamen who are taken on board American vessels made prizes, are to be entered into his majesty's service as part of the crew of the ship of war by which they are taken, instead of being made prisoners.

Mr. Hartley made a motion, the purport of which was, to address his majesty, that he would be graciously pleased to withdraw his troops from Boston; that the colonists should be restored to their constitutional right of trial by jury, and that all the grievances which they complain of, on the score of taxation, should be redressed; at the same time he proposed a plan for establishing the supremacy of the legislature of Great Britain in all other cases. But after some debate the motion was totally rejected, by 123 to 21.

Yesterday col. Ackland took leave of his majesty, and immediately set out for Portsmouth, to embark on board a transport ship which has his regiment on board, to sail with all expedition for America.

Dec. 9. Yesterday lord Cornwallis took leave of his majesty, he being in a few days to set out to embark for America.

The order of the day was read for receiving the report on the American restraining bill. Mr. Mackworth accordingly reported the bill, together with the amendments; it was then moved, that the said report be now taken into consideration. After which Mr. Mansfield, and Mr. Pratt the counsel, were called in; the report was then read, and likewise the petition from the planters of his majesty's sugar colonies, and several

the counsel withdrew, a debate arose, which lasted some time, and then the main question was put, that the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed; ayes 240, noes 58. Adjourned to Monday.

On Thursday died, at his house in Spring-Garden, of the gout in his stomach, admiral Sir Charles Saunders, knight of the Bath, member in the present parliament for the borough of Heydon, in Yorkshire, admiral of the blue squadron, lieutenant general of the marines, and elder brother to the Trinity-house.

The troops going to Virginia, (which are to sail as soon as possible) are to be commanded by gen. Clinton from Boston.

Lord Chewton is going a volunteer in this expedition.

Lord Cornwallis, who goes out commander of the troops, is to resign the command when at Williamburg (if they ever arrive there) to gen. Clinton; and there to act under that officer, or command a detachment, as the exigency of affairs may require.

Dec. 12. Yesterday lord Chewton, son of the earl of Waldegrave, took leave of the king, and embarked this day for America with lord Cornwallis.

House of commons, Dec. 21. A motion was made for the third reading of the American restraining bill, to which some opposition was made; but as every argument, which reason or ingenuity could suggest for or against the measure, had been already advanced, the debate was as barren as it was short. At half after six the question being put, it was carried by 112 to 26, when the bill was passed, and ordered to be sent up to the lords.

Extra of a letter from the Hague, Dec. 5.

"The Scotch brigade, in the service of this republic, has been applied for by the court of Great-Britain to be taken into British pay. The terms upon which this is to take place are not yet settled, but it is said they have stipulated not to be sent to America, and to have leave to recruit in Scotland, which they have not had for some years past. It is likewise said they are to continue three years in British pay."

Saturday evening a meeting of the great officers of state was held at lord Suffolk's office, as also some of the crown lawyers, to deliberate on a number of propositions which have been offered by a noble lord in an high office, as a ground-work of some conciliatory measures to be offered to the Americans.

Eight fail of the line and 5000 soldiers are to be employed in reducing the southern colonies, whilst the main fleet and army are to occupy Boston. This is the new disposition for the spring.

This day the Arethusa man of war, with several transports bound to America, returned to the Downs, the wind blowing hard against them.

NEW-LONDON, February 16.

Last Sunday, near sun-set, capt. Wallace landed a number of men out of his fleet, on Point Judah, took from thence seven loads of hay, a number of sheep, and two cows.

By a vessel from the West-Indies we learn, that the effects of non-exportation from this continent begins to be severely felt in the islands, where the most ordinary beef sells from 7 to 8l. per barrel, ordinary flour at 6l. per barrel, currency, and but little to be had at any price. The islanders (not believing there would be a scarcity) have, till lately, kept the produce of the colonies very low; but finding a scarcity likely to take place, the price suddenly rose. They are under terrible apprehensions from the negroes, whom they are obliged to pinch in their allowance.

HARTFORD, February 19.

Sickness in the family of the printers at Cambridge prevented the usual publication of the Essex Gazette, so that we are unable to give our readers a particular account of the heroic deed of a body of the ministerial gentry, last week, at Dorchester. All we can say is, that a party of about 500 landed on Dorchester-Point, on Tuesday night, and drove off our whole garrison, which consisted of about 40 men—let a number of houses on fire—took an old gentleman who had long been an inhabitant of the place, with two small children, prisoners, and then made off with the utmost precipitation.

NEW-YORK, February 22.

The governor of Nova-Scotia has issued a proclamation, publishing MARTIAL LAW in that colony.

We are informed that the continental congress have ordered general Lee to take the command of the forces in Canada, and that general Schuyler is to succeed in the command in this city.

On Tuesday evening, three fellows, who had committed a robbery in this city, took refuge on board the Phoenix man of war: Upon information given to Alderman Matthews, he went on board in person and demanded them; the captain immediately ordered them on shore, and they are now secured in gaol.

PHILADELPHIA, February 26.

Extra of a letter from New-York, dated Feb. 23, 1776.

"A letter from St. Barts, to a gentleman here, dated Jan. 27, 1776, brings the following information:—'We have had some late arrivals from England, by which we learn, that a bill for sending foreign troops to America had been thrown out by both houses—that another for seizing American vessels (it was thought) would share the same fate. However, there is one pulled for indemnifying captains of king's ships for what they have done or may do.—The papers say there are thirty-six commissioners going to America, to treat with each province separately for conciliatory measures: In the interim, every vessel that can swim is taken up to carry troops, ammunition, and provisions to America.—Gen. Gage was kept in the channel some time before the ministry would let him land.—There is no doubt that the French have 11,000 men in Martinico and Guadaloupe, and more expected; it is said they have an equal number at St. Domingo.'"

IN CONGRESS, February 23, 1776.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, councils, or committees of safety, and committees of correspondence and inspection in the United colonies, to exert themselves in devising farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the ma-

are into private property. That the colonies and convicts immediately in the colonies, point committees set up such measures. That the colonies, or with to erect, and appoint persons powder, at the expense. That of one member of farth encouraging the powder, in the several assemblies of Congress may be the progress made. The members Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Esgate, Mr. L. Saxton, Mr. Mullock.

Resolved, That Ireland, or the until the further commended to and observation into execution. Ordere

Extra of "You may tend to make the only reinforce maintain their place this w men, including ments of Scotc spring from Ho and from thenc are to be had, but they were They are now which number is to be divide Virginia and S every considerable chaps 4, 6, and bers are not a bodies. All co commissioners are not yet me court. The F some having jo never again ap strengthened: dable party, in ately attached greatly inferior rest of the B that party, and impossible to f

Extra of from the

The house yesterday touch and it appeari ington, who w the same from dency, and b were induced house would d tions; where second time, 1 RESOLVE apprehension 2 RESOLVE gates of the co the obtaining for restoring Britain upon 3 RESOLVE not to give t propositions, this colony form of gover

WILL We are in RICHARD C next day, wit of safety, con tion to go on with lord D ship had wri positions to Britain, and London, and The Mar Macartney, Clinton and with between the 4th and belonging to are arrived which they four or five is supposed North-Carol out among gulators. Capt. Mo mand of the in the King

ing the intentions of the convention in promoting the manufacture of salt, salt-petre, gunpowder, and fire-arms, request any persons who are inclined to engage on liberal encouragement in the manufacture of fire-arms, or to erect a powder-mill in the neighbourhood of Baltimore-town, where it will be most beneficial, or salt, or salt-petre works, that they will send their proposals in writing to Gabriel Duvall, clerk of the council of safety, and they shall be attended to as speedily answered.

March 4, 1776
To be sold at public vendue, on the premises, on Monday the 18th instant.

A VALUABLE well improved farm, containing 430 acres of land, situated on Patuxent river, in Prince-George's county, within 7 miles of Upper Marlborough and 3 of Nottingham. If the land should be disposed of, the stock of black cattle, sheep, and hogs thereon will at the same time be exp'd to sale. Those who incline to purchase may view the premises, and know the terms of sale by a plying to THOMAS SIM LEE.

March 5, 1776.
To be sold by the subscribers,
A FEW barrels and half barrels of strong and small beer, brewed by Mr. Isaac Perkins, in Kent county. This beer is allowed to be the best made in this province.
THO. C. WILLIAMS and co.

Anne-Arundel c. unty. Elk Ridge.
THE subscriber acquaints his brother tradesmen (especially those that have engaged in the country service) that he will furnish them with gun-barrels well forged, fluted, and bored, agreeable to the direction of the honourable the Continental Congress, at the moderate price of three dollars per barrel, which will enable the purchaser and finisher to make a good profit to himself, and will expedite the supplying the provincial magazine, so much wanted and desired. He can, without any unforeseen accident or misfortune, furnish thirty or forty barrels per month, besides those that he finishes for his friends that apply to him for either rifles or smooth guns; and if any of the barrels sold by him to any person should fail on proof with a double charge of powder and ball, he will give another barrel in lieu thereof.
AZEL WARFIELD.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of John Eden, late of St. Mary's county, deceased, by bond, note, or book debt, are requested to make immediate payment; and all persons having any just claims against the said estate, are desired to bring them in, that they may be adjusted.
TOWNSHEND EDEN, executor.

February 27, 1776.
THE creditors of the rev. Mr. John Macpherson are desired to meet at Port Tobacco, on the 18th day of March next, to receive their dividend of what money may then be in the hands of the trustees for the creditors of said Macpherson.
SAMUEL LOVE, acting trustee.

FIFTEEN SHILLINGS REWARD.
STRAYED from Mr. Lancelot Jacques, on the 2d of March, a bay horse, 7 years old this spring, 14 hands and a half high, his right eye is white, black mane and tail, shod all round. Whoever brings the said horse to Mr. Jacques in Annapolis, shall receive the above reward.
THOMAS JACQUES.

March 3, 1776.
THIS day Mr. Luke Howard informed me, that there come on shore on Wednesday night last a small schooner boat, about 30 feet long, she had a mainmast, foremast, and jib, all of which were much worn, she had a cable and anchor, and a small punt, all of which were upon deck; she has a small cabin with a fire-place in it; there were on board of her 3 bottles of linseed oil, two pair of old shoes, one pair of old yarn stockings, and one old waistcoat of spotted flannel. Any person owning the said boat may have her, by applying to said Luke Howard, living on the plantation of Mr. Thomas Ringgold, near Rock-hall in Kent county, paying charges.
W. RINGGOLD, jun.

THERE is at the plantation of Thomas Welsh, in Prince-George's county, near Snowden's iron-works, taken up as a stray, a chester roan mare, about 11 hands high, branded on the near buttock N, has a large blaze in her forehead, and appears to be about 3 years old. The owner may have her again on proving property and paying charges.

Annapolis, February 27, 1776.
To be sold at the subscriber's store, for ready money only,
A Quantity of pig lead, window glass, white lead in oil, glue, Spanish whiting, likewise 4d. 8d. 10d. and 20d. nails, 3d. 4d. 6d. 8d. 10d. and 20d. brads, and about 30 pieces of wood screws, on very low terms; the packages will not be opened, but sold by the barrel or parcel.
THOMAS HYDE.

To the PUBLIC.
Head of Severn, about a mile from Severn chapel.
February 28, 1776.
THE subscriber being appointed deputy clerk of Anne-Arundel county, hereby gives notice, that the records of said county are removed to his house, by order of the council of safety, where attendance will be given, every Monday, for recording deeds, searching and giving copies.
REZIN GAITHER.
Attendance will be given every Wednesday and Friday, in Annapolis, for issuing the several processes of the court, by
JOHN BRICE.

some tenders, a few days before the arrival of the Mercury.
We hear that 36 commissioners are now on their passage to America, from England; three for each colony, who are designed to treat with their respective assemblies.
Commodore Hammond has given orders to all the navy officers to cease firing on our sentinels, or small parties, on pain of being broke.
It is said that the troops with Lord Dunmore, to the amount of 500, are intrenched at Portsmouth, and that a considerable number of our people are intrenching some little distance below them. The Roebuck is gone up to Norfolk, where the Liverpool and Otter, with the ships Dunmore and William, a number of tenders, and other craft, still remain.
A considerable quantity of gunpowder (5000 wt. it is said) with other things and other linen, is lately landed in North-Carolina.
The ship Mockingham is now in Hampton-Road, with upwards of 60 passengers, bound for Glasgow.
By Mr. Hancock Lee, lately from Kentucky, we are informed that the Indians have scalped two or three white people on the Ohio, and that the commanding officer at Detroit offers them sol. for every scalp. Capt. Neaville, at Fort Pitt, writes his friends in Frederick to the same purpose, but says the reward is sol. a scalp.
The gentlemen of Alexandria have got down the cannon from Winchester, and are putting their town in a posture of defence.

ANNAPOLIS, March 7:
By a gentleman from Philadelphia we are informed, that the day before he left that city, a gentleman had arrived from the camp before Quebec, who brought advice that General Arnold had received a reinforcement of 600 men before he left that place, and that he met about 1500 more on their march between Montreal and Ticonderoga.
In COMMITTEE, Port-Tobacco, 16th February, 1776.
RESOLVED, that every member of this committee produce, by the first conveyance in April next, of his own manufacturing, six pounds of crude nitre, under the penalty of twelve shillings currency.
Signed by order,
J. GWINN, Clk.

RULES for regulating and governing the forces to be raised and employed in the service of the province of Maryland, continued.
16. Any non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall be found one mile from his station or the camp, without leave in writing from his commanding officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.
17. No officer or soldier shall be out of his quarters or camp without leave from the commanding officer, upon penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence.
18. Every non-commissioned officer and soldier shall repair to his quarters or tent at the beating of the retreat, in default of which he shall be punished according to the nature of his offence.
19. No officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, shall fail of repairing at the time fixed, to the place of parade or exercise, or other rendezvous appointed by the commanding officer, if not prevented by sickness or some other necessity, or shall go from the said place of rendezvous or from his guard, without leave from his commanding officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed or relieved, on penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence.
20. Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or other duty, under arms, shall be cashiered for it; any non-commissioned officer or soldier so offending, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.
21. Whatsoever sentinel shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly relieved, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.
22. Any person belonging to the provincial forces, who by discharging of fire arms, beating of drums, or by any other means whatsoever shall occasion false alarms in camp or quarters, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.
23. Any officer or soldier who shall without urgent necessity, or without leave of his superior officer, quit his platoon or division, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence.
24. No officer or soldier shall do violence, or offer any insult or abuse to any person who shall bring provisions or other necessities to any camp or quarters; any officer or soldier so offending, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.
25. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall shamefully abandon his post in the time of an engagement, shall suffer death immediately.
26. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall shamefully abandon any post committed to his charge, or shall induce any other persons so to do, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be adjudged.
27. Any person or persons belonging to the said forces, who shall make known the watch word to any person who is not entitled to receive it, according to the rules and discipline of war, or shall presume to give a parole or watch word different from what he received, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be adjudged.
28. Whatsoever of, or belonging to the said forces, shall relieve the enemy with money, victuals, or ammunition, or shall knowingly harbour or protect an enemy, shall suffer such punishment as shall be adjudged.
[To be continued.]

into private families.
That it be recommended to the several assemblies and conventions in the United Colonies, that they immediately establish public works in each, and every county in their respective colonies, at the expense of such colonies, for the manufacture of salt-petre, and appoint committees of their own members immediately set up such manufactures.
That it be recommended to the assemblies, conventions, or councils of safety of every colony, with authority to erect powder-mills in their respective colonies, and appoint committees to build such mills, and procure persons well skilled in the manufacture of powder, at the expense of such colonies.
That a committee of this congress, to consist of one member from each colony, be appointed to consider of farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufactures of salt-petre, sulphur, and powder, in these colonies, and to correspond with the several assemblies and conventions, and councils or committees of safety in the several colonies, that this congress may be, from time to time, truly informed of the progress made in these manufactures in all the colonies.

The members chosen: Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Paine, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Huntington, Mr. L. Morris, Mr. Bergant, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Read, Mr. Paca, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Hewes, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Mullock.
February 26, 1776.
Resolved, That no vessel loaded for Great-Britain, Ireland, or the British West-Indies, be permitted to sail until the further order of congress; and that it be recommended to the different committees of inspection and observation, to see that this resolution be carried into execution.
Ordered that the above be published.
Extract from the minutes,
CHARLES THOMSON, Secy.

Extract of a letter from London, dated Dec. 9.
"You may depend on it, that government do not intend to make their grand armament at B. ton; they will only reinforce the army there, so as to enable them to maintain their ground, if the provincials do not carry the place this winter. The whole force is to be 26,000 men, including those now in America, and three regiments of Scotch Dutch, who are to come over in the spring from Holland, and be sent to Scotland to recruit, and from thence go to America; no other foreign troops are to be had, nor would the Dutch have given them, but they were paid a most extravagant price for them. They are now about 2000, though nominally 3000, which number they are to be made. This whole force is to be divided in America, and sent to New-York, Virginia and South-Carolina, so that there will be no very considerable army, though strong bodies of perhaps 4, 6, and 8000 men to those places, but the numbers are not ascertained, though they will be strong bodies. All commerce is prohibited with America, but commissioners are certainly going out, but their names are not yet mentioned. The Scotch faction prevails at court. The Bedford party are a good deal divided, some having joined the opposition. Lord Chatham will never again appear out; the minority is considerably strengthened: Lord Rockingham is the head of a formidable party, indeed almost all the minority are immediately attached to him. Their strength, however, is greatly inferior to the ministry, and will be, except the rest of the Bedfords, which are the strongest part of that party, and the support of ministry, leave them, it is impossible to say what may happen."

Extract from the Votes and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the colony of New-Jersey.
Tuesday, November 28, 1775.
The house took into consideration the enquiry had yesterday touching the petitions presented to this house, and it appearing from the petitioners of the city of Burlington, who were called in and heard, that they signed the same from reports that some men affected independency, and being alarmed at such sentiments, they were induced to present the petition, hoping that the house would discourage such sentiments by their resolutions; whereupon the several petitions being read the second time,
1. RESOLVED, That reports of independency in the apprehension of this house are groundless.
2. RESOLVED, That it be recommended to the delegates of the colony to use their utmost endeavours for the obtaining a redress of American grievances, and for restoring the union between the colonies and Great-Britain upon constitutional principles.
3. RESOLVED, That the said delegates be directed not to give their assent to, but utterly to reject any propositions, if such should be made, that may separate this colony from the mother country, or change the form of government thereof.

WILLIAMSBURG, February 26.
We are informed, that on Monday last the hon. RICHARD CORBIN, Esq; came to this city, and the next day, with the entire approbation of the committee of safety, continued his journey to Norfolk, with intention to go on board the Dunmore, to have a conference with Lord Dunmore on the subject of a letter his lordship had written to col. Corbin, containing some propositions to negotiate an accommodation with Great-Britain, and to receive letters which had come from London, and were to be delivered into his own hands.
The Mercury frigate, capt. Graham (formerly Macartney, who is gone to England) having general Clinton and Lord Percy on board, and two transports, with between 3 and 400 troops, chiefly light infantry of the 4th and 44th regiments, and a number of officers belonging to the 16th and 40th, besides some engineers, are arrived in Hampton-Road, from Boston; since which they have been joined by the King-fisher, and four or five tenders, who now lie off Hampton, and it is supposed are bound up to Patowmack, or for North-Carolina, where some disturbances have broke out among the people who lately styled themselves regulators.
Capt. Montague, we hear, is promoted to the command of the Mercury, and capt. Graham succeeds him in the King-fisher.

February 26, 1776.
The several assemblies and conventions in the United Colonies, that they immediately establish public works in each, and every county in their respective colonies, at the expense of such colonies, for the manufacture of salt-petre, and appoint committees of their own members immediately set up such manufactures.
That it be recommended to the assemblies, conventions, or councils of safety of every colony, with authority to erect powder-mills in their respective colonies, and appoint committees to build such mills, and procure persons well skilled in the manufacture of powder, at the expense of such colonies.
That a committee of this congress, to consist of one member from each colony, be appointed to consider of farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufactures of salt-petre, sulphur, and powder, in these colonies, and to correspond with the several assemblies and conventions, and councils or committees of safety in the several colonies, that this congress may be, from time to time, truly informed of the progress made in these manufactures in all the colonies.
The members chosen: Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Paine, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Huntington, Mr. L. Morris, Mr. Bergant, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Read, Mr. Paca, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Hewes, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Mullock.
February 26, 1776.
Resolved, That no vessel loaded for Great-Britain, Ireland, or the British West-Indies, be permitted to sail until the further order of congress; and that it be recommended to the different committees of inspection and observation, to see that this resolution be carried into execution.
Ordered that the above be published.
Extract from the minutes,
CHARLES THOMSON, Secy.

40 PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
CONVENTION

OF THE
PROVINCE OF MARYLAND,
Held at the City of Annapolis, on Thursday the 7th of
December, 1775.

Annapolis, February 20, 1776.
To be sold at public vendue, by the subscriber, on the
second Tuesday in April next (on the premises) by
virtue of a power of attorney from Mr. John Ross
Key, eldest son and heir at law of Francis Key, late
of Cecil county, Esq; deceased,

A VALUABLE plantation, containing about three
hundred acres, being part of a tract called
and known by the name of Anne Catarine Neck; or
Carpenter's Point, situate, lying and being in Cecil
county aforesaid, at the head of Chesapeake Bay, near
the mouth of North-Bait river, and about three miles
from Charles Town. There is on the said plantation,
an exceeding fine fishery, part of which at present rents
for near one hundred pounds per annum.

Also to be sold at public vendue, the houses and lots
in Charles-Town, formerly the property of the said
Francis Key, the day after the sale of the above-men-
tioned plantation.

JAMES BROOKS.

CAME to the plantation of Charles Carroll, Esq; on
Elk Ridge, two mares, one black, with a star in
her forehead, and docked, about 3 years old and 13
hands high; the other bay, about 12 hands high, ap-
pears to be about 4 years old; there is no perceptible
brand on either of the mares. The owner or owners
of the above mares may have either or both of them,
proving property and paying charges.

CHARLES CARROLL.

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

SAMUEL and JOHN SNOWDEN.

February 15, 1775.
S L I M.
To be let to mares the ensuing season, at Sandgate
farm, close by Mr. Stuart's rope-walk, and within a
mile of Annapolis,

THE high bred English horse, SLIM, full fifteen
hands high, rising seven years old. Slim is of a
beautiful dark chestnut colour, was got by Wildman's
Babram, his dam by Rogers's Babram, his grandam
by Sedbury out of Lord Portmore's Ebony; is well
suited to breed for either the saddle or turf, being re-
markably light, and quick in his movements, free
from any blemish or incumbrance of gum, and is im-
agined equal to any horse on the continent, four mile
beats at nine fone. He will be let at six dollars, for
the season, and half a crown to the groom, and as at
so low a rate the cash will be expected before the
horse is led out. Good pasture for mares to be had at
half a crown a week, or at half a dollar, with proper
feeding.

January 21, 1776.
WHEREAS the subscriber hath purchased, of
Mr. John Hammond Dorsey, his dwelling
plantation and land, situate, lying, and being, in the
Forks of Gunpowder river, near the town of Joppa,
paid him a considerable part of the purchase money
for the same, and given him bonds, payable with in-
terest, for the residue of the said purchase; and
whereas the said John Hammond Dorsey, by his obli-
gation bearing date the 5th day of January, 1776, was
bound under the penalty of three thousand pounds,
current money, to convey the same to the subscriber
in fee simple, which has been refused to be complied
with by the former, on the request of the latter, and
the said John Hammond Dorsey, notwithstanding said
contract, has offered the lands aforesaid for sale to sin-
dry persons, the subscriber therefore gives notice to
the public, in justice to them and himself, of said con-
tract, and forewarns all manner of persons whatsoever
from purchasing, of the said John Hammond Dorsey,
the said lands, as he will insist upon his prior contract,
and will not release him from the same.

HAMMOND JOHN CROMWELL.

Annapolis, August 23, 1775.
WANTED immediately, a number of hands who
are acquainted in the different branches of the
manufacture of fire arms—good wages and encourage-
ment will be given to such as have been used to work
in any branch, according to their proficiency and in-
dustry, either by the piece or time.—As good lock-
smiths, or other neat filers, will be soon handy in mak-
ing several parts of gun-locks, to such also I will
give good encouragement.—There are many servants
about the country who would be very useful in the ne-
cessary business I am now engaging in; I should be
glad to be informed of such, and wish to hire them,
or purchase their times of service of their masters.

N. B. I want to hire a good file-cutter.

ISAAC HARRIS.

WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, and SILVERSMITH,
Opposite Mrs. Johnson's tavern, ANNAPOLIS,

BEGS leave to acquaint the public in general,
and his friends in particular, that he will contin-
ues to carry on the aforeaid trade in all their various
branches, and at the most reasonable rates; also that
he cleans and repairs all sorts of fire-arms, small-
sword, hangers, and cut-throats. He also makes hooks
for swords in the neatest and most approved manner.

N. B. He has several grofs of hooks and eyes to
dispose of cheap.

FIFTEEN POUNDS REWARD.

RAN away last night from the subscriber, living
in Baltimore county, Maryland, near Mr. Ro-
bert Cumming's mill, three convict servant men, viz.
Thomas Akister, a Yorkshireman, talks very broadly
and slow spoken, about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, pret-
ty stout made, has a scar on his upper lip, and is peck-
marked; took with him when he went away, an old
felt hat, a small swanskin jacket with sleeves, and a
large outside ditto of brown tulle cloth, three osha-
brig shirts, two pair of old trousers, one of roll the
other ofsnabrig, and a pair of old shoes with strings.

Harper John Bumstead, an Englishman, quick spo-
ken, about 5 feet 12 inches high; a stout boney man,
of a sandy complexion, peck-marked, broad mouth,
and thick lips; took with him when he went away, an
old castor hat, old furtout coat and red jacket, two
shirts, one of white linen, the other of brown, a pair
of blue cloth breeches, several pair of old worsted
stockings, a pair of old shoes with nails in the heels,
and white mottle pewter buckles.

Henry Cook, an Englishman, about 5 feet 8 of 9 in-
ches high, middling thin visage, smooth face, took
with him when he went away, an old felt hat tarred
and bound round the edge, one check and one osha-
brig shirt, a Russia linen frock much tarred, a pair of
Russia linen trousers much tarred, a pair coarse coun-
try linen ditto, and a pair of old shoes with large brass
buckles. It is supposed they took with them two stu-
ped duffil blankets. It is probable they will change
their cloaths, alter their names, and will forge passes,
and may have gone off by water. Whoever takes up
said servants, and secures them so as their masters may
get them again, shall receive if taken up in this county
40 shillings for each, if taken out of the county, and
in the province, three pounds for each, and if out of
the province, the above reward, and reasonable charges
if brought home, paid by

BENJAMIN MERRYMAN,
JOHN ORRICK.

STRAYED or stolen from Annapolis, on the 24th
of November, a bright bay horse, about 14 hands
and an inch high, paces, trots, and gallops, has a long
mane, is shod before, and has a scar upon his back oc-
casioned by a set fast. Whoever will deliver him to
Mr. Garretson, in Annapolis, or to the subscriber,
shall receive 20 shillings.

OVERTON CARR.

Annapolis, Nov. 5, 1775.

RAN away last night from the subscriber, the two
following servants, viz. William Webber, an
Englishman, a hatter by trade, about 5 feet 8 or 9 in-
ches high, 23 years of age, long dark brown hair,
cued behind, turned up before, and curled at the ears,
thin faced, thick lips, and walks parrot-toed; is a
forward talkative fellow, and can be very complai-
sant when he pleases. Had on and took with him, a light
blue gray cloth coat and waistcoat, the coat has been
turned, one red cloth waistcoat, one pair white Russia
drab breeches, one white linen shirt, two brown Russia
sheeting ditto. It is probable he has other cloaths, or
may have changed those described.

Charles Tipping, or Tip, ins, by trade a gardener,
and can work a little at the carpenter's business, about
5 feet 6 inches high, remarkably thick set, full face,
short brown hair. Had on and took with him, a short
brown working coat with metal buttons; a blue cloth
jacket with sleeves and metal buttons; good buckskin
breeches, one pair white Russia drab ditto, one white
shirt, two brown Russia sheeting, ditto, and may have
sundry other cloaths.

The above servants went off in a two mast boat, and
four oars, in company with some others. They took
a pair of ofsnabrig sheets, which it is supposed they in-
tend to make sail of. Whoever will secure the above
servants so that their master may get them again, shall
receive 30 shillings for each if 40 miles; 40 shillings
for each if 100 miles, or if out of the province £5 for
each, and if brought home, reasonable charges, paid
by

WILLIAM REYNOLDS.

N. B. Webber had on a good castor hat fan-tail'd,
cocked in the military fashion, lined with new white
linen, plain pinchbeck knee and shoe-buckles; they
took with them a large black dog with white feet and
breast, remarkably fat.

Annapolis, November 3, 1775.

STOLEN in the night of the 25th of October last,
from on board a small schooner boat, lying in the
harbour of Poplar Island, the main and fore sail of the
said boat. The height of the main-sail is about 27
feet, and has been much mended; almost a whole
breadth taken out of the after part, has been middle
stitched through every seam, and has a patch of can-
vas in the after clew; the fore-sail also, has been much
mended, particularly herring-boned, which is faced
with a new piece of ofsnabrig from the clew up to the
gaff. Whoever will bring them to, or give sufficient
information of them, so that they may be obtained by
the subscriber, at his house in Annapolis, may receive
6 dollars reward, and 6 dollars over and above, upon
the conviction of the person or persons who stole the
said sail.

CHARLES CARROLL, of Carrollton.

STOLEN away from the subscriber, on Tuesday
night the 20th instant, a dark bay or brown horse,
10 or 11 years old last spring, upwards of 15 hands
high, his hind feet white, and has a few gray hairs in
his forehead, paces, trots and gallops, and when
going with pretty good spirits; has a hanging main, lit-
tle foretop, yellow nose, and short back; his tail when
timmed, which was very lately, was intended for a
switch, but by the unskillfulness of the person who
did it, it was made almost as short as a long bob, the
hoofs of his fore-feet were broken on the inside, and
he had on a pair of shoes about half worn, but if he
has been much rode, it is very probable that one or
both may be off by this time. Whoever takes up both
thief and horse, so that the thief be convicted, and the
horse delivered to me at the Patuxent iron-works,
shall receive the above reward, or 20 shillings for the
horse only, but if the horse should be a great distance,
reasonable charges will be allowed if brought home,
paid by

JAMES RAWLINGS.

Prince George's county, May 14, 1775.
NOTICE is hereby given to all persons indebted to
the subscriber, either by bond, note, or open
account, to immediately come and settle their respec-
tive debts, as I am determined to give no longer in-
dulgence.—I hope this requisition will be adhered to,
otherwise I shall take compulsory methods to enforce
payment, without any respect to persons.

JOSEPH DUVAL.

April 10, 1775.
TEN POUNDS REWARD.
RAN away from the subscriber, living in Kent
county, Maryland, the 3th of this instant, two
Irish indentured servants, each of which has about three
years to serve, viz.

FRANCIS MANIS, about thirty years of age, a
very stout well made fellow, about five feet ten inches
high, very full faced, short dark hair; had on and
took with him, a good brown broad cloth coat, and
black velvet jacket and breeches, and a pair of black
everlasting breeches, with yellow metal buttons, an
old blue coat with new large sleeves, shirts, shoes and
stockings; his calling a ditcher or brickmaker.

JOHN DELANY, about 26 years of age, five feet
eight inches high, well made, fair skin, ruddy com-
plexion, short brown hair; had on and took with him,
a green jacket made sailor fashion, a purple under
jacket, a white shirt, one or two check shirts; much
worn, a new felt hat, a black silk handkerchief round
his neck, a pair of white kersey breeches, and a pair of
blue serge breeches, one pair of Scotch Kilmarnock,
and one pair of Kendall ribbed hose mixed black and
white, a pair of half worn shoes, and square steel
buckles, he writes a good hand; and they have both
been in different parts of Pennsylvania. Whoever
takes up the aforesaid servants, and secures them so
that the subscriber may have them again, shall receive
ten pounds reward, if taken out of the province, if in
the province, six pounds, or half the above reward for
either, by

RICHARD GRAVES.

Calvert county, October 24, 1775.
RAN away from the subscriber, the 20th instant, a
negro man, named Leven, about 26 years of age,
5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, his head has lately been
shaved on the top; had on and took with him, a gray
half-thick coat lined with ofsnabrig, with metal but-
tons, a white country cloth ditto without buttons,
country cloth breeches, and a pair of tolerable good
shoes and stockings. I will give one guinea for ap-
prehending and securing him in any jail.

W. SMITH.

Baltimore county, Patapsco Neck, April 3, 1775.
TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.

For apprehending a Runaway.
JAMES, a mulatto slave, sometimes known by the
name of Vulcan, but commonly answers to the
name of Buck, took on about leave of his overseer
last Wednesday, and has not yet returned; he is a
dark mulatto, about 5 feet 6 inches high, strong made,
sensible, artful, and deceptive in conversation, firm
and daring in his efforts to perpetrate villainy, tho'
of mild temper, and plausible in speech; he has fre-
quently travelled through a considerable part of this
and some part of the province of Pennsylvania; is
well known, it is supposed, in the borough and coun-
ty of Lancaster, and is acquainted with Philadelphia;
may probably therefore visit those places. He
working cloaths were a home manufactured long cloth
waistcoat with sleeves, and breeches, yarn stockings,
ofsnabrig shirt, and good shoes, nailed with hobnails;
he is possessed of and has taken with him a blue German
serge coat, a green broad cloth vest, two pair of cot-
ton and one pair of thread stockings, two white shirts
ruffled at the breast, a good castor hat with band
and buckle, a pair of good pumps, with a pair of double
rimmed silver buckles. He has a mark of distinction,
which from modesty, or some other motive, he is care-
ful to conceal; one of his ears (but which is forgot) is
remarkably less than the other. The above reward
will be paid if he should be taken up out of the pro-
vince, or 80 miles from Baltimore town in the pro-
vince, and brought home; five pounds if at the dis-
tance of 40 miles, three pounds if 30, and forty shil-
lings if 20 miles, with reasonable travelling expence,
including the legal charge under the act of assembly,
by

THOMAS JONES.

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

M A R Y L A N D
A L M A N A C K

E P H E M E R I S

For the Year of our Lord 1776.

MARYLAND GAZETTE. 41

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1776

L O N D O N.

following is a copy of the bill for composing the present colonies, and for quieting the minds of his Majesty's subjects in America, intended to have been presented to the House of Commons last week by Mr. Burke, but was prevented by the previous question being put.

WHEREAS by the blessing of Almighty God, and the industry, enterprise and courage of several of the people of this realm, extensive and valuable territories have been acquired in America to the crown of Great Britain, which are now inhabited by great multitudes of his Majesty's subjects, who have cultivated and improved the same for the most part at their own charges, to the great increase of the commerce and naval strength of this kingdom; and have, of their own free gift, made provision for the support of the civil government within their said plantations, have maintained many expensive wars against the Indian nations, and have at sundry times granted large sums of money and other very considerable aids to his Majesty and his royal predecessors to support them against the enemies of this kingdom, notwithstanding which, the inhabitants of the said colonies have been liable to several taxes given and granted in parliament for the purpose of raising a revenue when they have had no knights or burgesses, or others, of their own choosing, to represent them in parliament, and from the great distance of the said colonies from this land and other impediments, are not able conveniently to send representatives to the said parliament, whereby the said inhabitants of the British colonies have conceived themselves to be much aggrieved, and thereby great troubles have arisen and are likely to continue, if a fitting remedy be not provided. Wherefore we pray your Majesty that it may be enacted and declared, and it is hereby enacted and declared, by &c. &c.

That no aid, subsidy, tax, duty, loan, benevolence, or any other burthen or imposition whatsoever, shall be levied, assessed, levied, or collected, upon the inhabitants of any colony or plantation in America, by any authority or in virtue of any act of parliament, or by any other manner, or by any other authority, than the voluntary grant of the general assembly or general court of each colony or plantation, and which shall be confirmed according to the usage of each province respectively, any law, statute, custom, right, prerogative, or any other matter whatsoever, to the contrary notwithstanding. Saving to his Majesty, his heirs and successors, his right of relieving and collecting, quit-rent, and other ancient dues and revenues, and all other duties and taxes by this act not repealed, and saving and reserving to all proprietors and charter companies their ancient rights, privileges, and possessions. Provided always, that nothing in this act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to restrain the future imposition and levy of duties and taxes for the regulation of trade and commerce in all the dominions to the imperial crown of this realm belonging.

And in order to remove all doubts and uneasiness from the minds of his Majesty's subjects in the colonies, it is hereby further enacted, that if any act of parliament shall be hereafter made for the purpose of such regulation of trade, the produce of the duties thereby shall be held of the directors or receivers of his Majesty's customs for the disposal of the general assemblies of the said colonies had been levied by the authority of the said general assemblies in the said colonies.

And whereas during these troubles the assemblies or inhabitants of the said colonies have formed a general meeting, when said meeting was not authorized by law to make any order or resolution, or to do any other act of force to bind his Majesty's subjects: And whereas it may be necessary that the said colonies should have authority to do certain acts by common consent which would conclude the whole body of the said colonies; it is therefore enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for his Majesty, his heirs and successors, to give authority to his governors in America, to require the said colonies to send deputies to a general meeting, with full powers to bind their said several provinces to all acts done by a majority of voices in the said general meeting, which meeting and the powers thereof shall cease and determine on the day when the same shall be confirmed by parliament.

And whereas, in consequence of the late troubles, several acts of parliament have been made for the purpose of coercing and restraining the colonies, of which an advantage has been taken to represent the same, as if a design had been formed to deprive the people of the said colonies of several rights, benefits, and advantages of nature and the British constitution, which has greatly increased the discontents of the colonies and fomented the troubles in America—In order therefore to quiet the minds of his Majesty's subjects in America, and to reclaim the disobedient to that lenity which ought to have been the strongest operations on the minds of free subjects; it is enacted, That an act made in the 7th year of the reign of his present Majesty, intituled, "An act for granting certain duties in the British colonies and plantations in America; for allowing a drawback of the duties of customs upon the exportation from this kingdom, of office and cocoa nuts, of the produce of the said colonies or plantations; for discontinuing the drawbacks payable on China earthen ware exported to America; and for more effectually preventing the clandestine running of goods in the said colonies and plantations." No other act made in the 14th year of the reign of his present Majesty, intituled, "An act to discontinue in each manner, and for such time, as are therein mentioned, the landing and discharging, lading or shipping

of goods, wares and merchandize, at the town and within the harbour of Boston, in the province of Massachusetts-Bay, in North-America." Also one other act made in the 14th year of the reign of his present Majesty, intituled, "An act for the more impartial administration of justice in cases of persons questioned for any acts done by them in the execution of the law, or for the suppression of riots and tumults in the province of Massachusetts-Bay in New-England." And also one other act made in the 14th year of the reign of his present Majesty, intituled, "An act for the better regulating the government of the province of the Massachusetts-Bay in New-England." be hereby severally and respectively repealed.

And the king's most excellent Majesty, taking into his gracious consideration the great troubles, discords and wars that have of late been in some of his Majesty's colonies in America, and that divers of his subjects are, by occasion thereof and otherwise, fallen into and become obnoxious to great pains and penalties; out of a hearty and pious desire to put an end to all suits and controversies that by occasion of the late distractions in America have arisen or may arise between his subjects; and to the intent that no crime whatsoever committed against his Majesty shall hereafter rise in judgment, or be brought in question, against any of them, to the least engagement of the same, either in their lives, liberties, or estates, or to the prejudice of their reputations; and to bury all seeds of future discord and remembrance of the former as well in his own breast as in the breasts of his subjects one towards another; is graciously pleased that it may be enacted and be it enacted, &c. &c. That all and all manner of treasons, misprison of treasons, murders, felonies, offences, crimes, contempts, and misdemeanors, counselled, commanded, acted or done since the

by any person or persons in America before the by virtue or colour of any command, power, authority, commission, warrant, or instruction, from his Majesty or from any other person or persons deriving or pretending to derive authority, mediately or immediately, from his Majesty, or of or from any assembly, council, general court, convention, congress or meeting in any of his Majesty's colonies in America, called or reputed or taking on them the name of the assembly, council or general court of any of his Majesty's colonies in America, or of a general congress, or provincial congress, or any other name or style whatsoever, or by virtue or colour of any writ, commission, or instructions of or from any person or persons, reputed or taken to be, or claiming or exercising the power of commander in chief of the continental army in America, or of any provincial army, or commander of any army or body of troops whatsoever within any of his Majesty's colonies in America, by sea or land, or of any magistracy or reputed magistracy or officer, within any of the said colonies, or by any pretence, warrant, or command whatsoever, from them or any of them, or their or any of their respective council or councils, or any member of such council or councils, or from any person or persons whatsoever deriving or pretending to derive authority from them or any of them, be pardoned, released, indemnified, discharged, and put in utter oblivion.

And that all and every person and persons, acting, advising, assisting, abetting, and counselling the same, they, their heirs, executors and administrators, be and are hereby pardoned, released, acquitted, indemnified, and discharged from the same; and of and from all pains of death, and other pains, judgments, indictments, informations, convictions, attainders, outlawries, penalties, forfeitures, and every of them, and all grants thereupon made, and all estates derived under the same, be, and are hereby declared and enacted to be from henceforth null and void; extinguishing all actions, suits, demands, and prosecutions, civil and criminal, or public or private, except for the restoration of such estates as have been or shall be seized from their owners during the troubles; and for restoring to the said owners the mean profits of the same. Provided that arms not taken up by his Majesty's authority, shall be laid down by our subjects in the said provinces within

Extrañ of a letter from Harwich, November 19.

"The storm last Tuesday, the 14th, has done more damage on the coast of Holland than has been known since the memory of man; it is horrible to view the coast; a scene of shipwrecks from the island of Goree to Schevelin bay; the strand master has found 26 rudders of ships of different sizes; no marks remain to give account of what ships they were, except on the hog-heads of tobacco that have been picked up on the strand, which are marked Betsey, 1775. Glasgow. Many oranges, lemons, and casks of wine, with square timber, are floating along the coast; not one soul on board the different ships is saved, nor one mark of any of the ships. What masts and yards dove on shore, are most of them broken and shivered; only one gatel schuyt, out of sixteen, rode it out in Helvoet roads, by having his anchors clear, and five down a-head of him.

"The shipping in Helvoet harbour, with difficulty, held fast with two cables a head, and several men of war in the basin broke loose and received damage; the waters were over the tops of the mooring post along Helvoet key; the waters overflowed the island of Odenburg, commonly called Blanckenburg, which is about three miles long and two broad; it had several farm houses, &c. on it; nothing has been discovered but some drowned hares; the boats last Thursday sailed over the island, as if no such place had been there."

Nov. 22. it is said that every vessel in the navy, under 40 guns, is ordered to be ready for sea by the first of next month, manned and victualled.

Advice from Cadiz informs us, that two vessel laden with ammunition &c. going to America, were opposed there, by request of the English consul, from proceeding any further.

LEIDEN, November 16.

The day before yesterday, between four and five in the morning, a most violent storm arose in the North-Sea, which, about noon, changed to the S.W. and continued all the next night, mingled with hail, rain and thunder. His storm has occasioned immense damage at the Hague. Delft and this place; but the most considerable loss was at Rotterdam and Amsterdam, from the inundation having swept away many of their magazines. By the great quantity of water brought down the Maaze, the roads and way to Rotterdam are entirely broken, and immense damage done. At Amsterdam the waters were seven inches higher than in the last inundation, and the lower part of the city and the lands on the coast of Y are under water. Much other damage is done, great numbers of cattle are lost, and the road between Haarlem and Amsterdam, both for carriages and passengers, totally swept away.

WORCESTER, March 1.

We are told a gentleman who came out of Boston last Friday reports, that the enemy have taken away their mortars from Bunker's-Hill, and carried them to Boston; that a council of war had been held in Boston for several days; that general Howe had advised the mandamus counsellors to go to England, and the Tories to leave the town; that all the vessels in the harbour that were not in the king's service, were taken up to transport the Tories and their effects; and that it was furnished in Boston, that should another battle ensue, and the regulars be defeated, they would retire to the town, and remove to some other part of the continent.

It is a prevailing opinion that something extraordinary will turn up in the course of a few days.

NEW-YORK, Feb. 29.

Saturday last col. Ward's regiment arrived here from Connecticut, and embarked in boats and landed on Nantux Island.

Extrañ of a letter from Canada.

"It is not improbable, that unacquainted with all the circumstances, some persons, who while they applauded the courage and resolution of our late brave general Montgomery, in attacking, under every disadvantage, a city so strongly fortified both by art and nature, as Quebec, with less than half the number of men that were within the walls to defend it, many censure the attempt as rash and desperate. But his situation not only justified, but made it a matter of indispensable duty, though a duty of a nature so difficult and arduous, that the most heroic virtue and intrepid courage was absolutely necessary to the performance of it. The exertion of the time for which a great part of the provincial troops had been enlisted, being near at hand, in a council of war, an attack of the town before that time was determined upon, and a plan concerted. But just before its execution, it appearing that some deserters from our army had discovered it to the enemy, an alteration became necessary, nor was there any time to delay, for the men were on point of returning home, and the general was reduced to the dilemma of making an attack under all disadvantages, or of raising the siege, and retiring with the loss of all the advantages we had gained by the unparalleled fatigues of a winter campaign in such a country. It is no wonder therefore, that, perilous as it was, he, with col. Arnold, &c. determined to make the attack, though, to stimulate his men, the general was obliged to head them in person.

"The attack was made with as much bravery as it was resolved on, and probably would have succeeded, had not a fatal discharge from the enemy's cannon, soon after he mounted the wall, finished the glorious career of our gallant general and some of the bravest of his followers. The principal of these were his aid de camp, captain McPherson, of Philadelphia, capt. Cheefman, of New-York, and ten of his company, who all fell at the first fire. This mighty loss, at the first onset, so confused and discouraged our men, that the remaining officers in the detachment thought themselves under a necessity of drawing off the men.

"Capt. Cheefman was the first that scaled the wall, and intrepidly pushing forward, he received a canister of grape-shot through his body, which brought him to the ground: he attempted to rise, and his motions indicated a desire to press forward, but all was over, the fatal wound was given, through which fled as brave and heroic a spirit as ever animated the breast of an Alexander.

"He seemed to have a remarkable preface that he should fall in the attack; he mentioned it without the least superstitious fear, but with the undaunted bravery of a soldier. He dressed himself that morning extremely neat, and putting five half joes in his pocket, said that would be sufficient to bury him with decency. In him I have lost a valuable and much esteemed friend."

March 4. By several gentlemen from Albany we learn that the noted Indian artizan, Uncas, arrived there last Thursday evening, escorted by major Melcher with a number of the officers taken at Chumbee; that capt. Dickey, with the first company of Pennsylvanians, arrived at Montreal the 16th of February; the 18th capt. Jenkins was met on Lake Champlain with his company; capt. Davis at Crown-Point, and capt. Williams at Lacouderoga, all of the first battalion of the Pennsylvania forces in high spirits; that three companies of Green Mountain boys were also arrived at Montreal; that the lakes were lined with troops

42 from Massachusetts Bay; and that nothing material has lately happened at Quebec.

March 6. We are informed by a captain of a vessel from Rhode-Island, that last week capt. Wallace landed his marines on Conanicut, in the evening, and began to burn the buildings, but being discovered by one of the centinels, a number of our people concealed themselves behind the walls and fences until they came near them; but the commander thinking it unfair to fire on them without giving them notice, called out, "Who comes there?" when he heard Wallace order his men to make ready, upon which our party instantly fired among them, and killed and wounded thirty of Wallace's people; among the slain was an officer of marines, and the drummer, who was killed by Wallace's side, which was plainly seen by the light of the houses on fire. Those that were not wounded of Wallace's party retreated on board the ship with greater haste than they landed.

Wednesday last Wallace and his fleet went down the bay to Rhode-Island on which they gave him a cannonading as he passed, and on Saturday he returned again, when they paid him the same compliment.

Extract of a letter from Montreal, Feb. 29, 1776.

"Capt. Graham, of the second battalion, is just arrived from Quebec--nothing very material, but that the blockade is kept up completely, and frequent defections from the town: I am told they had been seen to break up the vessels in the harbour for fire-wood: This absolutely does great honour to general Arnold and his little party, however they will now get safe, as troops are coming in pretty fast; one company of Pennsylvania troops arrived yesterday with some American manufactured gunpowder, and many of the New-England volunteers. We now have, I imagine, about 1500 men before Quebec, but before the reinforcement arrived, the blockade was kept up with about 500 men, exclusive of a few Canadians, in whom little or no dependence could at that time be put, nor indeed at any time, without a greater force of Continental troops.

We hear, by a gentleman from Rhode-Island, that the Macaroni privateer had taken a transport ship from London: It is said that there were found on board orders for general Howe only to act on the defensive, till further orders.

We hear a number of troops are evacuating Boston, and embarking on board the transports; and it is thought they intend to visit New-York very shortly.

We are just informed that our army at Roxbury had regained possession of Dorchester Neck, and had brought with them some mortars and battering cannon.

PHILADELPHIA, March 9.

Extract of a letter from New-York, dated March 6.

"A letter from Cambridge, of the 29th ult. informs, That preparations were still making for getting to work on Dorchester-Neck and Boston; that the enemy were well acquainted with their designs, and had lately thrown up several works to weaken our fire; that on the 25th, they (the enemy) completed a bomb battery and a gun sloop opposite Letchmore's Point, and promise our folks a visit as soon as they break ground on Dorchester; that the principal part of their heavy cannon, hospital stores, &c. are on board ship; all the square rigged vessels in the harbour are taken up, and received two months advance to transport the troops and tory inhabitants, if necessary, to a less hostile shore; that Monday or Tuesday next will be the important day; that we have forty-five batteaux, each to carry eighty men, and two floating batteries, stationed at the mouth of Cambridge river; if the enemy make a serious affair of Dorchester, we may rush into the west part of Boston; the enemy's strength (marines, Tories and negroes included) about 7000--our's about 20,000; that two of our privateers had fallen in with an armed brig of 13 guns, engaged her for three hours, and sent her off on the career."

Extract of a letter from Newbern (North-Carolina) February 13.

"An express arrived here yesterday from the back country, informing us that the regulators and Tories were making head there, and intended marching to Cross-Creek, and from thence to Cape-Fear. I am of opinion they will get well flogged before they reach Cape-Fear, provided they will fight. Our minute-men, and part of the militia, march to-morrow, and will join col. Caldwell in Dobbs's county, from which place he will march in two or three days with near a thousand men under his command. Col. Rutherford informed me this day, that col. Ashe, in New-Hanover county, was on his march two days ago against the regulators, &c. with near two thousand men. If three or four more of our colonels, in this province, raise as many men, which I expect will soon be the case, they will be able to attack ten thousand regulars, and beat them too, I think, as our men will fight with great resolution."

To the PEOPLE of PENNSYLVANIA.
LETTER I.

MY DEAR COUNTRYMEN,

THE wisdom of some nations has been greatly commended, because they never enacted any new law, nor suffered any innovation in their ancient constitutions, without first proposing the matter to the people, and giving them a full opportunity to express their approbation or dislike. It is true, we have never come up to the perfection of this rule, yet in the former happy days of the province, it was a good and salutary custom among us freely to discuss and examine all public affairs, in conversation as well as writing, when occasion required. And although, since the commencement of our present troubles, this rule could not always be observed, yet every unnecessary deviation from it has but added to the affliction of many real friends of America.

Grievous as the least restraint upon the press must always be, to a people entitled to freedom, it must be the more so, when it is not only unwarranted by those, to whom they have committed the care of their liberties, but cannot be warranted by them, consistent with liberty itself. Nevertheless we readily submitted to it, while any colourable pretext could be offered for requiring such a submission. Nay, we have done more--we have too quietly yielded to a few, who have been claiming one power after another, till at length, encour-

aged by their success, and prostituting the cry of public necessity to cloak an ambition, which needs as much to be checked in the lowest as the highest, they have now the astonishing boldness to aim at a total destruction of our charter constitution, and seizing into their own hands our whole domestic police, with legislative as well as executive authority.

To prepare the way for effecting this most ruinous design, the MAJESTY OF THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA has been grievously wounded, in the persons of their legal representatives, by repeated attempts to intimidate them in the discharge of the great trust committed to them by the voice of their country, and the most scurrilous misrepresentation of patriotic exertions which have not been exceeded by any other body upon the continent.

Since the Press is at length become so free, that such publications are thought tolerable on one side, it cannot but be judged reasonable, that it should be equally free on the other side also; especially where charges are to be answered, and innocence defended. At all risks I am determined to make the experiment, and to offer one appeal to the remainder of our ancient virtue. Nor need any persons be alarmed; for an indecent or angry expression shall not dishonour my pen, nor yet a single sentiment, which is not calculated to cement all parties in the province, upon safe and popular grounds, more firmly than ever, in executing the resolves of congress, and maintaining American liberty. So far as our committees confine themselves to the purposes of their appointment, which are merely executive; so far as they are exerting themselves to effect what is well expressed in the Evening Post of last Thursday, to have been their original design, viz. "a faithful execution of the association entered into by the continental congress, relieving and assisting those who may suffer by the suspension of trade, promoting reconciliation upon constitutional principles between Great-Britain and her colonies; the encouraging the manufacture of such articles as are necessary for our existence, clothing and defence; the preventing manufacturers or vendors of goods and merchandise from selling the same at unusual and extravagant profits;" and holding up transgressors of every rank to public censure, without fear or affection--so far, I say, they ought to have the thanks of their country for generously bestowing their time and attention to its service, and ought to be supported by all good men. In this view they deserve the greatest commendation for their late vigorous endeavours to rescue their injured fellow-citizens, from the avaricious gripe of engrossers and forestallers.

But if, instead of being confined to such purposes as these, any individuals of our committees, who I trust will never amount to a majority, should, by the bait of power thrown out to them by designing men of this or any other province, be led out of their line, to interfere in matters foreign to their appointment, I am persuaded, that when they seriously consider what may be offered on this head, they will perceive that such a conduct (as it never can be submitted to by the people of this province) would give a more effectual stab to our domestic harmony, and to the public cause, than all the efforts of all the dissipated persons in America can give.

In carrying on our great controversy with England, Pennsylvania has no need, either to make the least sacrifice of its constitution, nor yet to yield in zeal to the foremost of the colonies. It has been our singular happiness from the beginning, that we have been able to grant, and have actually granted, as large sums for the common service as any of our neighbours, in proportion to our numbers; and that these grants have been made in a way to which the people were accustomed, and to which they have given their sanction, by electing the same men, since the contest with England had advanced into open war; thereby pledging themselves to submit to whatever mode may be adopted, by future assemblies for sinking the immense sums with which the province is charged, as well as signifying the fullest approbation of the measures which have been concerted for our defence.

This great privilege which we enjoy, of giving our free unbiased voice annually in the choice of an assembly, who, from that moment, by charter become a constitutional body, vested with the authority of the people, and can meet when they please, and sit as long as they judge necessary. This privilege, I say, and the ease and quiet with which our public business has been transacted, during the present contest, have been the envy and admiration of our neighbours, who, enjoying no such perfection in their civil constitutions, have been driven into the measure of conventions, and forced to hazard the emission of money, and other acts of state, under disadvantages, which need not be mentioned here, as we are yet happily free from them. Would any wise people, enjoying such a constitution, ever think of destroying it with their own hands; or does any other colony, whose assemblies can exercise their authority, ever think of committing the conduct of affairs to conventions?

But suppose our assembly really charged with any culpable neglect of duty, with what face could those of our present committee, who are so loud in their clamours against them; pretend to step into their seats? Were they chosen for that purpose? No. They were considered as chosen for the purposes already mentioned; and although they consist of a hundred members, they had not two hundred votes. Few people gave themselves any concern about the election, being well satisfied, that any number of respectable citizens who would take the trouble of a committee of inspection, should be thankfully indulged with the office. But would this have been the case, had it been imagined that any among them, would ever aspire at the powers vested in an assembly, fairly and constitutionally elected, to represent two or three hundred thousand people? For, whatever may be pretended about the necessity of a convention, it is certain, that if such a body were to meet, and could succeed in assuming the powers of government, they must all at length be vested, for the sake of execution, in the hands of a few men, who consider themselves as leaders, in the city of Philadelphia; and the province in general have but little to say in the matter.

These are very serious and alarming considerations, to many; and therefore, after discussing a certain point of equal importance in my second letter, I will proceed in the succeeding ones, to enquire into the justice of such complaints, as have been made against the assembly. In some instances, probably, these complaints may ap-

pear to be well founded. Where they are so, I shall be ready to confess it; and as perfection is not to be expected, in the first hasty essays of any public bodies, providing for new and unprecedented cases, I doubt not, they will readily make such amendments, as may appear necessary to themselves, or be suggested by reasonable men. In some instances, I shall shew, that they deserve public thanks, for refusing to comply with some requisitions formerly made; and that others are now made, which they cannot assent to, without a manifest violation of our constitution; such as blending the military and civil power, and giving field officers who may hold their places for life, the power of determining appeals, and discharging affidavits, which is now safely lodged in the constitutional way, with commissioners chosen by the people.

C A T O

WILLIAMSBURG, March 1.

Extract of a letter from a member of the provincial congress of North-Carolina, to col. Howe, dated at Halifax, February 24, 1776.

"A gentleman of the name of Smith has just now lodged seven of the leaders of the Regulators in Halifax jail, among whom are four of the Fields. The names of the others I do not know, but neither Hunter nor Piles are amongst them. He informs me, that the instruction is entirely suppressed with respect to the Regulators, and says he thinks the Highlanders are disappointed before now. I do not give implicit credit to this last mentioned conjecture, because we have later accounts than Mr. Smith's (who was only as low down, I believe, as Chatham court-house) which contradict it. However, it is clear to me that there will not be a gun fired upon this occasion; for the number of our troops (not less, perhaps, than 5000) will undoubtedly awe the Highlanders into submission, if they are not already dispersed. Governor Martin, it seems, had kept up a correspondence with the disaffected in the western part of this province, had formed a plan of insurrection, issued colonels commissions to many counties for this purpose, and ordered that such men as should take arms should repair to the royal standard, at Brunswick, by the 15th of this month, promising that they should be then and there supported by 5000 regulars.

Your mind being relieved from all anxiety for us, you will be at full liberty to exert all your powers for the good of Virginia; and I flatter myself that your conduct will bring credit to your country, and honour to yourself."

Extract of a letter from Hampton, dated February 28.

"General Clinton, with two men of war (the Mercury and Kingfisher) three transports, and four tenders, sailed on Monday, I believe for sea; and this morning another king's ship, which I took to be the Liverpool, and a tender, came down from Norfolk, and I imagine are gone out of the capes."

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY.

February 22, 1776.

About a week ago two minute companies arrived here from Maryland, one from Kent county, under the command of capt. William Henry, the other from Queen-Anne, under the command of capt. James Kent. They are two very fine companies, extremely well armed, have amongst them many gentlemen of family and fortune, and are examples of good discipline and subordination. The day after their arrival the committee met, and addressed them as follows:

To Capt. WILLIAM HENRY, and Capt. JAMES KENT, and the troops under their command.

Gentlemen,

THE committee of Northampton county beg leave to congratulate you upon your safe arrival into this county, after a fatiguing march, at this rigorous season.

When gentlemen of easy fortunes, such as the companies we have seen from your province, and who can enjoy at home every convenience and elegance of life, enter themselves voluntarily to serve their country, by undertaking a tedious march at an inclement season, and cheerfully submitting to every inconvenience consequent thereto, it cannot be doubted that they are actuated by the noblest principles. They are justly entitled to the thanks of their country, and we hope Providence will ever crown them with honour and success.

The peaceful state which this once happy county ever enjoyed, till the present unnatural though unavoidable contest, renders us totally unprovided for the proper reception of a number of armed men; and we hope, gentlemen, you will consider the very indifferent accommodations which you meet with here as solely owing to this cause, and not from want of respect and attention to your circumstances. We however beg leave to assure you, that nothing in our power shall be wanting to promote your convenience and happiness, which the situation of our county would permit; in full confidence that you will at all times, during your residence amongst us, cheerfully co-operate with this committee in maintaining good order and regularity in this place, and in opposing the dangerous designs of all the secret and avowed enemies of American liberty.

To which the COMMITTEE received the following ANSWER.

Head quarters, Northampton court-house, Feb. 22, 1776.
Mr. President and Gentlemen of the COMMITTEE for Northampton county, Virginia.

WE return thanks for your very polite address to us, and the companies under our command, upon our arrival at this place, as also for your attention in making the necessary provision for our reception. Impressed with a lively sense of the duty we owe to our country, and animated with the glorious cause of American liberty, we cheerfully left our habitations, thinking no difficulties too much for a people to encounter who were determined to die or live free, and shall esteem ourselves happy in proportion to the services we shall be able to render the colony, and this county in particular.

We are not infensible of the many inconveniences attending the accommodation of soldiers in a country hitherto a stranger to war, and with pleasure we find your assiduity has conquered these difficulties, and made our residence easy and agreeable.

Be assured, gentlemen, we shall be always ready to give you any assistance in our power, consistent with our

to preserve at all times the execution are strangers in this place, with the obedient servants

A N N

The public will be informed by the following is the most speedy the 5th received information from England (school and blew hair) as, that they were necessary did safe they thought dispatched to the province, to come on a visit on Wednesday certain information there was a flock the vessel came opposite the Bay. Off-hallop loaded near the mouth received intelligence of war and two confirmed, that or destroy the more the celebration--the De-fowed down the fellows, all of and most of the ed, crowded with ment, which I dy one. Cap-turday morning large vessels what and do to admit the termination was this to them than bearing down appeared much tion, and on. Offer to assist with difficulty a abandoned, being manned way, clued up pecting her about two hours down, at length to anchor off station some action returned. On Sunday made sail and general prisoners capico.

RULES

forces to vice of the

29. Who shall be considered as enemies, citizens, death, or fudged.

30. If a or colours, search of p may be

31. If a ment, or fers or sold to the enemy death, fudged.

32. If an or gestures when sitting to disturb at the disc

33. To justice, commit a his comm arrest; if imprisone martial, or authority.

34. No arell or nement is a court

35. No arshal, delivered be said f ering an with wh

36. No arshal committee or so do Cape, o may be a

to preserve good order and regularity; and shall at all times thankful for your advice and directions in the execution of the trust reposed in us, especially as we are strangers to what is and may have been transacted in this place. We beg leave to subscribe ourselves, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your very obedient servants,

WILLIAM HENRY,
JAMES KENT.

ANNAPOLIS, March 14.

The public will expect some account of the alarm occasioned by the man of war and her tenders; the following is the most perfect we can give at present.---On Tuesday the 5th of March, about seven in the evening, we received information, that a man of war and two tenders were coming up the Bay and had taken a New-England schooner lying at the mouth of Patuxent---he and blew hard at S. W. and the general expectation was, that they would be at this place in a few hours---the necessary dispositions were made to receive them in case they thought proper to land, and expresses were dispatched to Baltimore-town and other parts of the province, to communicate the intelligence between twelve and one on Tuesday night the wind shifted, and came on a violent gale at S. W. and to continued all day on Wednesday, during which time we had not any certain information where the vessels were---on Thursday there was a light breeze up the Bay, about two o'clock the vessels hove in sight, and at half past three came opposite this city with some prizes and stood up the Bay.---Off the mouth of this harbour, they burnt a schooner loaded with oats, and in the evening anchored near the mouth of Patuxent. On Friday night we received intelligence, that the vessels were the Otter, a sloop of war and two tenders, and the general opinion was confirmed, that they were going to Baltimore to take or destroy the ship Defence.---On Saturday we expected to hear of an engagement, and the rather, as at Baltimore the celerity of their movements exceeded expectation---the Defence being got ready on Friday night towed down the river, manned with a number of brave fellows, all of whom were Americans in their hearts, and most of them by birth; several small vessels attended, crowded with men to assist in case of an engagement, which in all probability would have been a bloody one.---Capt. Nicholson got under way early on Saturday morning, resolved to retake Hudson's ship (a large vessel the Otter had made prize of loaded with wheat and flour) and to engage the Otter, if she moved to assist the tenders, which guarded the prize---the morning was thick and hazy, and the Defence got nearer to them than was expected, before they discovered her bearing down upon them---those on board the tenders appeared much alarmed, and pushed off with precipitation, and on a signal given more hands were sent by the Otter to assist in rowing them off, which was effected with difficulty---three or four small prize vessels were abandoned, besides Hudson's ship---the Defence having manned the prize and seeing the Otter get under way, chased her to come up, but the Otter having lain about two hours, as if wanting Capt. Nicholson to come down, at length bore away, and in the afternoon came to anchor off this port.---Capt. Nicholson continued his station some time, and having performed this gallant action returned with the prizes to Baltimore.

On Sunday morning the Otter, sloop, and her tenders made sail and went down the Bay, having restored several prisoners taken in a vessel in the mouth of Patuxent.

The regulars, militia, and people in general, behaved with the greatest spirit and alacrity.

RULES for regulating and governing the forces to be raised and employed in the service of the province of Maryland, continued.

29. Whoever of, or belonging to the said forces, shall be convicted of holding a treacherous correspondence with, or of giving intelligence to the enemy, either directly or indirectly, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be adjudged.

30. If any officer or soldier shall leave his post or colours, at the time of an engagement, to go in search of plunder, he shall suffer such punishment as may be adjudged.

31. If any commander of any post, intrenchment, or fortress, shall be compelled by the officers or soldiers under his command to surrender it to the enemy, or abandon it, the offenders shall suffer death, or such other punishment as may be adjudged.

32. If any person shall use menacing words, signs, or gestures, in the presence of any court-martial, when sitting, or shall cause any disorder or riot so as to disturb their proceedings, he shall be punished at the discretion of such court-martial.

33. To the end that offenders may be brought to justice, whenever any officer or soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, by his commanding officer, if an officer, be put in arrest; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be imprisoned till he shall be either tried by a court-martial, or shall be lawfully discharged by proper authority.

34. No officer or soldier, who shall be put in arrest or imprisonment, shall continue in his confinement more than eight days, or till such time as a court-martial can be conveniently assembled.

35. No officer commanding a guard, or provost-marshal, shall refuse to receive or keep any prisoner delivered into his charge by an officer belonging to the said forces; the officer, at the same time, delivering an accusation signed by himself, of the crime with which the said prisoner is charged.

36. No officer commanding a guard, or provost-marshal shall presume to release any prisoner committed to his charge, without proper authority for so doing; nor shall he suffer any prisoner to escape, on the penalty of being punished for it as may be adjudged.

37. Every officer or provost-marshal, to whose charge any prisoner shall be committed, is hereby required, within twenty-four hours after such commitment, or as soon as he shall be relieved from his guard, to give in writing to the colonel or commanding officer of the prisoner, his name and crime, and the name of the officer who committed him, on the penalty of being punished for his neglect as may be adjudged.

38. Whatever commissioned officer shall leave his confinement before he is set at liberty by the officer who confined him, or by a superior power, shall be cashiered for it.

39. Whatever commissioned officer shall behave in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, shall be discharged from the service.

40. The officer commanding the said battalion, and every officer commanding a company not of the said battalion, shall, upon notice given to him by the commissary of musters, assemble the battalion or company, under his command, in the next convenient place for their being mustered, which shall be done of the said battalion once in six weeks at least, and of the said other forces once in ten weeks at least.

41. Every field officer or other officer, commanding any corps, and actually residing with it, may give furloughs to officers and soldiers of his corps, as he shall judge to be most consistent with the good of the service; but no officer or soldier shall be absent above twenty days in six months; nor shall more than one officer and two private men be absent at the same time from any one company, excepting some extraordinary occasion shall require it.

42. At every muster, the commanding officer of the said battalion then present, or the captain or commanding officer of the said companies not of the battalion then present, shall give to the commissary of musters certificates of the musters signed by himself, signifying how long such officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, who shall not appear at the said muster, have been absent, and the reason of their absence, which reason and the time of absence shall be inserted in the muster rolls, opposite to the respective names of such absentees; and the said certificates, together with the muster roll, shall be, by the said commissary, transmitted to the Council of Safety within twenty days next after such muster being taken, on failure whereof the commissary so offending shall be discharged from the service.

43. Every officer, who shall sign a false certificate relating to the absence of officers or non-commissioned officers, or private soldiers, shall be cashiered.

44. Every officer, who shall knowingly make a false muster of any man, and any officer or commissary, who shall sign, allow or return the muster rolls wherein such false muster is contained, knowing the falsity thereof, shall be cashiered, and forfeit all such pay as may be due to him at the time of his conviction of such offence.

45. Any commissary, who shall take any gift or gratuity on the false mustering of the said battalion or any company, or for signing any muster roll, shall be displaced, and forfeit his pay, as in the preceding article.

46. Any officer, who shall presume to muster any person as a soldier, who at other times is accustomed to wear a livery, or who does not actually do his duty as a soldier, shall be deemed guilty of having made a false muster, and suffer accordingly.

47. The commanding officer of every corps, or of any garrison in the service aforesaid, or at any station of any of the said forces, shall, in the beginning of every month, transmit to the Council of Safety an exact return of the state of the troops under his command, specifying the names of the officers not then residing at their posts, and the reason for and time of their absence. And whoever shall, through neglect or design, omit sending such returns, shall be punished as may be adjudged.

48. No person shall be allowed to suttle at any camp or station, or to any party or detachment of the said forces, before he shall have obtained a licence from the commanding officer thereof, and shall also have subscribed these rules.

49. No suttler shall be permitted to sell any kind of liquor, or victual, or to keep his house or shop open, for the entertainment of soldiers, after nine o'clock at night, or before beating the reveilles, or upon Sundays between the hours of ten and one o'clock, on penalty of being dismissed from all future suttling.

50. No officer commanding in any camp, garrison, fort, or station, shall lay any duty or imposition upon, or be interested in, the sale of any victuals, liquors, or other necessaries of life, or merchandize which are brought or offered for sale for the use of the soldiers, nor shall receive or have any gratuity or reward for any licence to any suttler, on penalty of being discharged from the service.

51. Any commissioned officer who shall be guilty of any fraud or embezzlement, shall forfeit all his pay due at the time of his conviction, make restitution, and be discharged from the service.

52. Any non-commissioned officer or soldier, who shall embezzle or destroy ammunition, provisions, tools, or any other thing belonging to the public stores, shall be punished as may be adjudged.

53. Any officer or soldier, who shall wilfully or through negligence disobey any general or special orders, shall be punished as may be adjudged.

54. That no general court-martial shall consist of

a less number than thirteen, none of whom shall be of a less degree than a commissioned officer, and the president shall be a field officer; which general court-martial shall be appointed, when and as often as occasion shall require, by the Council of Safety, or the colonel or commanding officer of the said battalion; and the president shall administer an oath to the other members of the same court, and the member next in rank to the president shall administer an oath to him, before the same court shall proceed to determine or hear any case, in the words following, to wit: "You, A. B. do swear, that you will well and truly try, and impartially determine the cause of the prisoner now to be tried, according to the rules for regulating and governing the forces in the service of this province. So help you God." Provided, That when any person is to be tried for his life, the Council of Safety shall appoint twenty-four members at least, two of which to be field officers, and ten at least to be captains, out of a list of whom the offender may arise all above the number of fifteen, leaving at least one field officer and five captains; and sentence of death shall not be pronounced, unless twelve of the court martial concur in such sentence.

55. That no inferior court-martial shall consist of a less number than five commissioned officers, unless in such cases where that number cannot be conveniently assembled, when three shall be sufficient; but no person on or against whom the offence is alleged to have been committed, shall be a member of any court-martial for the trial thereof; and in such cases where three, for that reason, cannot be had of the same corps, garrison, party, or station of the offender, then with those who are competent of that corps, garrison, party, or station, and the next most convenient thereof; such inferior court-martial shall be constituted of five members at least.

[To be continued.]

THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY desirous of forwarding the intentions of the convention in promoting the manufacture of salt, salt-petre, gunpowder, and firearms, request any persons who are inclined to engage on liberal encouragement in the manufacture of firearms, or to erect a powder-mill in the neighbourhood of Baltimore-town, where it will be most beneficial, or salt, or salt-petre works, that they will send their proposals in writing to Gabriel Duval, clerk of the council of safety, and they shall be attended to and speedily answered.

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TO BE SOLD,

A VALUABLE tract of land, containing 280 acres more or less, situated upon Rock creek in Frederick county, within four miles of George town and eight of Bladensburg, 150 acres whereof are in wood; and the remainder inclosed by a good fence; there are about ten acres of the aforesaid land may be made good meadow with little trouble. I have likewise for sale 25 acres of land near or adjoining the town of Upper Marlborough, in Prince George's county, with good improvements thereon, and a valuable mill in good repair, and grinds all seasons. For terms apply to Robert Whitaker near the aforesaid town, or William Belt in Frederick county.

March 13, 1776.

STRAYED the 8th instant, out of the lot of the subscriber, in Annapolis, a small chestnut mare, about fourteen hands high, with a blaze in her forehead. Whoever will bring the said mare to the house of the subscriber aforesaid may receive two dollars reward.

3W 1X CHARLES CARROLL, of Carrollton.

March 5, 1776.

To be sold by the subscribers,

A FEW barrels and half barrels of strong and small beer, brewed by Mr. Isaac Perkins, in Kent county. This beer is allowed to be the best made in this province.

3W 2 THO. C. WILLIAMS and co.

Anne-Arundel county. Elk Ridge.

THE subscriber acquaints his brother tradesmen (especially those that have engaged in the country service) that he will furnish them with gun-barrels well forged, fluted, and bored, agreeable to the directions of the honourable the Continental Congress, at the moderate price of three dollars per barrel, which will enable the purchaser and finisher to make a good profit to himself, and will expedite the supplying the provincial magazine, so much wanted and desired. He can, without any unforeseen accident or misfortune, furnish thirty or forty barrels per month, besides those that he finishes for his friends that apply to him for either rifles or smooth guns; and if any of the barrels sold by him to any person should fail or prove with a double charge of powder and ball, he will give another barrel in lieu thereof.

2 AZEL WARFIELD.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of John Eber, late of St. Mary's county, deceased, by bond, note, or book debt, are requested to make immediate payment; and all persons having any just claims against the said estate, are desired to bring them in, that they may be adjusted.

3W 2 TOWNSHEND EDEN, executor.

February 27, 1776.

THE creditors of the rev. M. John Mac, heron are desired to meet at Pot Tobacco, on the 15th day of March next, to receive a dividend of what money may then be in the hands of the trustees for the creditors of said Macpherson.

1W 2 SAMUEL LOVE, acting trustee.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1776

WARSAW, November 19.

THE promises which had been given us of the speedy departure of the Russian troops remain still unperformed. The emperors of Russia hath thought proper that they shall continue in this kingdom, on account of some turbulent persons here; besides which the season is too bad for marching the soldiers. The ambassador hath made some representations on this subject, and in consequence of them, the Russians are removing the former quarters.

VENICE, Nov. 24. Last Sunday the duke of Gloucester arrived here incognito from Padua. His royal highness was present at the splendid entertainment given by the baron de Zuckmantel, ambassador from the court of Versailles.

LONDON, Nov. 23.

His majesty's ship the *Renown*, commanded by Francis Banks, Esq; on her passage to America, has taken ten sail of American ships that were going to the southward to catch whales; and understanding from the Americans that several ships of force were cruising on the coasts under the orders of the Congress, has sent them home for fear of being retaken by the Americans.

A Dutch ship is among the number of those taken by the *Renown*, the being loaded with arms and ammunition, and bound to Philadelphia.

A few days ago was married at York Mr. Thomas, grenadier in the Yorkshire militia, six feet two inches high, to Miss Hannah Tennick, of Clearham, three feet two inches high, with a fortune of 5000 l.

Dec. 19. A letter from Bolton, dated Oct. 26, says, "Capt Moore, in his majesty's ship —, has been down to Calco Bay, and destroyed above one hundred sail of shipping, and near two hundred dwelling and warehouses. Three transports bound to Bolton had been taken and carried in there by the Provincials."

Extract of a letter from Portsmouth, Dec. 18.

"This day arrived here from Chatham, his majesty's ship *Brittol*, under command of Sir Peter Parker, who is going out to America second in command. The *Boreas* frigate, commanded by Capt. Thompson, has received her orders, and it is expected will sail to-morrow for Bolton."

It is said that on Thursday night, in debate, a noble lord said, that he meant to produce an augmentation of the land forces to 70,000 men, and of the navy to the utmost possible extent, to subdue the rebellious Americans.

House of Lords, Dec. 19. Yesterday, as soon as the order of the day for going into a committee on the America prohibiting bill was read in the house of lords, the duke of Manchester rose and opposed it. His grace observed, that whatever view administration could have in deceiving the public might be matter of speculation, and was what he would not pretend precisely to determine; but by the account that appeared in Saturday's gazette, published immediately under direction of administration, it appeared they were determined to bring the London gazette on a level with the Brussels gazette, published last war. It was nearly approaching to it already, but if they continued to improve in the art of misrepresentation and the suppression of facts as they had done in the last gazette, in relation to the state of our affairs in Canada, there was no doubt but the London gazette would become as famed as the Brussels. By the account alluded to he remarked, that our affairs in Canada were represented to be in a very flourishing condition; whereas the very contrary was well known to be true, for there were authentic accounts of a later date from that country, which say that St. John's was in the hands of the Provincials, and that probably the next accounts would bring advices of the total destruction of general Carleton's army, and that we were not in possession of a foot of land in Canada. His grace, as well on account of this news, as the general importance of the bill, moved that the commitment of the bill might be put off till after the Christmas recess.

He was seconded by the marquis of Rockingham, who, besides the general reasons urged by the duke of Manchester, said, that the merchants were alarmed, and that in such a case he thought it would be very proper to defer the farther consideration of the bill till after Christmas, as in such a state of uncertainty, but more particularly on account of the alarm the bill had created among the trading and commercial part of the nation, the consequences were, in many respects, much to be dreaded.

Lord Suffolk said that the king's ministers were fully justified in causing the account relative to Canada to be inserted in the gazette; that it was the last authentic account received from that province. That the ministry had received the account alluded to by the noble duke, but they had no right to pay any attention to it, as it did not come through a channel on which they might depend; that it might be, for aught he could say to the contrary, very true; but whether it was or not it could not affect the present bill; because if Canada was in the hands of the Provincials, it should become Great Britain to act with greater firmness and vigour.

Lord Townshend said, that the present reason for deferring the commitment of the bill, had no possible weight with him. If an account of our prevailing in this skirmish, or being defeated in that, was to sway and influence the British councils, it was a state he never expected to see them reduced to; that if this principle, which parliament meant to avoid to pursue, was a good one, and practicable, nothing ought to divert them from it; for he hoped they had the power to enforce what they certainly had a right to claim.

Lord Shelburne observed, that no man had a higher opinion of the military abilities of general Carleton than he had; but he could not say but that gentleman, if the accounts from Canada could be depended on, had acted in a very unjustifiable, reprehensible manner in his civil capacity.

Lord Townshend rose to explain, and passed the highest encomiums on general Carleton. He said there was not a braver nor more capable officer in the service. That what he had said relative to his not having a sufficient force to oppose the rebels, was not so much in point of numbers as discipline. He had, it is true, a good number of troops under his command, but they were mostly composed of militia, not used to service; the whole regular force together not exceeding two regiments, amounting to 700 men.

Lord Shelburne again repeated his entire approbation of general Carleton as an officer, but he said he had done many things for which he believed he or his principal would be made answerable. That he should not now trouble their lordships on that head, but he hoped that the day was not very far distant, when the matter would be fully cleared up. As to the want of force, or want of discipline, the general could not help that, it behoved those only who neglected that service to answer for his want of success.

The question was at length put on the duke of Manchester's motion for postponing the bill till after the recess; passed in the negative without a division.

The lord chancellor moved for the order of the day, but before the chairman had time to take the chair, the duke of Manchester acquainted the house, that he had a petition from the merchants of Bristol against the bill. His grace observed, that he did not know whether it was consonant to the orders of the house. He read the heads of the petition in his place, which describes the ruinous consequences of the bill, as respecting the merchants of that town concerned in the American trade.

Lord Sandwich spoke to the matter of order; said no motion could be received while the order of the day was before the house; that, besides, he believed there was no occasion for particularly attending to the contents of the petition, as he meant to offer a clause which he believed would in a great measure remedy the grievance stated in the petition.

The house then went into a committee of the whole house on the bill, lord Scarisdale in the chair, when several amendments were made, and clauses offered.

Lord Sandwich offered a clause to protect all vessels and their cargoes, two thirds of which should appear to belong to British subjects.

Lord Dartmouth offered an amendment to the preamble and the concluding clause, to ascertain and shew that the power of pardoning vested in his majesty by the bill, was inherent in him, and only given here to answer a particular purpose.

Lord Sandwich offered another clause in favour of the West-India islands.

The bill being gone through, lord Scarisdale left the chair, and a motion was made, that the clauses and amendments be reported this day, which was agreed to.

A protest was yesterday entered against the proceedings of Friday last, upon the second reading of the American bill, and signed by the following lords, viz. Abergavenny, Richmond, Rockingham, Ponsonby, Manchester, Fitzwilliam, Abington, Chedworth.

On the 6th instant several of the transports, with provisions on board for America, and upwards of twenty other ships with provisions for the West-Indies, sailed from Corke.

From the LONDON GAZETTE of Dec. 23.

BY THE KING.

A PROCLAMATION,

Appointing the distribution of prizes taken during the continuance of the rebellion now subsisting in divers parts of the continent of North-America.

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS by an act, made in this present session of parliament, intitled, "An act to prohibit all trade and intercourse with the colonies of New-England, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three Lower Counties or Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, during the continuance of the present rebellion within the said colonies respectively; for repealing an act, made in the fourteenth year of his present majesty, to discontinue the landing and discharging, lading or shipping of goods, wares, and merchandize, at the town and within the harbour of Boston, in the province of Massachusetts-Bay; and also two acts, made in the last session of parliament, for restraining the trade and commerce of the colonies in the said acts respectively mentioned; and to enable any person or persons, appointed and authorized by his majesty, to grant pardons, to issue proclamations, in the cases and for the purposes therein mentioned;" it is, amongst other things, enacted, "that all ships and vessels of or belonging to the inhabitants of the said colonies, together with their cargoes, apparel and furniture, except as in the said acts are excepted, and all other ships and vessels whatsoever, together with their cargoes, apparel, and furniture, which shall be found trading in any port or place of the said colonies, or going to trade, or coming from trading, in any such port or place, except as are therein also excepted, shall become forfeited to his majesty, as if the same were the ships and vessels of open enemies; and shall be so adjudged, deemed and taken, in all courts of admiralty, and in all other courts whatsoever; and for the encouragement of the officers and seamen of his majesty's ships

of war, it is thereby also further enacted, that flag-officers, captains, commanders, and other commissioned officers in his majesty's pay, and also the seamen, marines, and soldiers on board, shall have the sole interest and property of and in all and every such ship, vessel, goods and merchandize, which they shall seize on take, (being first adjudged lawful prize in any of his majesty's courts of admiralty) to be divided into such proportions, and after such manner, as his majesty shall think fit to order and direct by proclamation or proclamations hereafter to be issued for those purposes; We, taking the premises into consideration, do, pursuant to the said act of parliament, (with the advice of our privy council) by this our proclamation, order, direct and appoint, That the neat produce of all prizes taken, in pursuance of the said act, by our ships of war, be divided into eight equal parts, and be distributed in manner following, that is to say, To the captain or captains of any of our ships of war, who shall be actually on board at the taking of any prize, three eight parts; but in case any such prize shall be taken by any of our ship or ships of war, under the command of a flag or flags, the flag officer or flags being actually on board, or directing and assisting in the capture, shall have one of the said three eight parts, the said one eighth part to be paid to such flag or flag officers, in such proportions, and subject to such regulations, as are herein after for that purpose mentioned: to the captains of marines and land forces, sea lieutenants and master, on board any such ships, one eighth part, to be equally divided amongst them: To the lieutenants and quarter-masters of marines, and lieutenants, ensigns, and quarter masters of land forces, boatwain, gunner, purser, carpenter, master's mate, surgeon, pilot, and chaplain, on board any such ship, one eighth part, to be equally divided amongst them: To the midshipmen, secretary to the flag officer, captain's clerk, master sailmaker, carpenter's mates, boatwain's mates, gunner's mates, mauler at arms, corporals, yeomen of the sheets, cockswain, quarter-masters, quarter-masters mates, surgeon's mates, yeomen of the powder room, and sergeants of marines or land forces, on board any such ship, one eighth part, to be equally divided amongst them: to the trumpeters, quarter-gunners, carpenter's crew, steward, cook, armourer, steward's mate, cook's mate, gunsmith, cooper, swabber, ordinary trumpeter, barber, able seamen, ordinary seamen, and marines, or other soldiers, and all other persons doing duty or assisting on board any such ships, two eighth parts, to be equally divided amongst them.

And in case any sea captain, interior commission or warrant sea officer, belonging to any ship of war, for whom any shares of prizes are hereby allowed, be absent at the time of the capture of any prize, the share of such sea captain, interior commission or warrant sea officer, shall be cut into the shares hereby allowed to the trumpeters, quarter-gunners, carpenter's crew, steward, cook, armourer, steward's mate, cook's mate, gunsmith, cooper, swabber, ordinary trumpeter, barber, able seamen, ordinary seamen, and marines and other soldiers, and other persons doing duty or assisting on board any such ships, to be equally divided amongst them. Provided, that if any officer or officers on board of any of our ships of war, at the time of taking any such prizes, shall have more commissions or offices than one, he or they shall be entitled only to the share or shares of the said prizes, which, according to the above mentioned distribution, shall belong to his or their respective superior commission, or offices.

And we do hereby strictly enjoin all and every commander or commanders of any ships of war, taking any prize, as soon as may be, to transmit, or cause to be transmitted, to the commissioners of our navy, a true list of the names of all the officers, seamen, marines, soldiers, or others, who are actually on board our ships of war, under his or their command, at the taking such prize; which list shall contain the quality of service of each person on board, and be subscribed by the captain or commanding officer, and three or more of the chief officers on board. And we do hereby require and direct the commissioners of our navy, or any three or more of them, to examine, or cause to be examined, such lists by the muster book of such ships of war, and lists annexed thereto, to see that such lists do agree with the said muster books, and annexed lists, as to the names, qualities, or ratings of the officers, seamen, marines, soldiers, and others, belonging to such ships of war; and upon request forthwith to grant a certificate of the truth of any list transmitted to them, to the agents nominated and appointed by the captors, pursuant to the said act, to take care and dispose of such prize; and also upon application to them, to give, or cause to be given, unto the agents who shall, at any time or times be appointed as aforesaid by the captors, all such lists from the muster books of any such ships of war, and annexed lists as the said agent shall find requisite for their direction in paying the produce of such prizes, and to be otherwise aiding and assisting to the said agents, as shall be thought necessary.

And as touching the said one eighth part, herein before mentioned to be granted to the flag or flag officers who shall be actually on board at the taking of any prize, or shall be directing and assisting therein, we have thought fit, and do, by these presents, publish, order and declare, that the following regulations be observed: First, that a flag officer commanding in chief, where there is but one flag officer upon service, shall have to his own use, the said one eighth part of the prizes taken by ships under his command. Secondly, That a flag officer sent to command at Jamaica, or elsewhere, shall have no right to any share of the prizes taken by ships employed there, before he arrives at the place to which he is sent, and actually takes upon him the command. Thirdly, That when an inferior flag officer is sent out to reinforce a su-

rior flag officer at Jamaica, or elsewhere, the said superior flag officer shall have no right to any share in the prizes taken by them before they arrive within the limits of his command, and actually receive some orders from him. Fourthly, That a chief flag officer returning home from Jamaica, or elsewhere, shall have no share of the prizes taken by the ships left behind to act under another command. Fifthly, That if a flag officer is sent to command in the out ports of this kingdom, he shall have no share of the prizes taken by ships that failed from that port by order of the admiralty. Sixthly, That when more flag officers than one serve together, the eighth part of the prizes taken by any ships of the fleet or squadron shall be divided in the following proportions, viz. If there be but two flag officers, the chief shall have two third parts of the said one eighth part, and the other shall have the remaining third part; but if the number of flag officers be more than two, the chief shall have only one half, and the other half shall be divided equally among the other flag officers. Seventhly, That commodores, with captains under them, shall be esteemed as flag officers, with respect to their right to an eighth part of the prizes taken, whether commanding in chief, or serving under command.

Given at our court at St. James's, the twenty-second day of December, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the sixteenth year of our reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Lord viscount Mahon and Sir Watkin Lewis have presented to his majesty at St. James's, the following petition, signed by 550 of the principal gentlemen, merchants, freemen, and inhabitants of the city of Worcester.

To the KING's most excellent MAJESTY.

The humble Address and Petition of the gentlemen, merchant, and inhabitants, of the city of Worcester.

"May it please your majesty,

"At a time when a PART of your majesty's subjects, and a F. W. of our fellow citizens are approaching your royal presence, with addresses, which are SUPPOSED to convey to your majesty the genuine sentiments of the people of Great Britain; Will your majesty permit your dutiful and loyal subjects of one, not the most inconsiderable city in your majesty's dominions, with unfeigned assurances of attachment to your royal person, and the illustrious house of Hanover, thus publicly to bear testimony against them, as we hold ourselves bound, by every tie of duty to your majesty, to ourselves, and to our country.

"We think ourselves more particularly called upon, lest the same deplorable arts of misrepresentation should be practised here, with the same success, as in America, which has involved that country in a civil war; nor are we without apprehensions, that should the same unfortunate measure be pursued, when this kingdom is drained of its forces, some power in Europe, our natural enemies, may avail themselves of the opportunity, and transfer the seat of war into this country.

"We desire likewise to represent to your majesty, the melancholy decline of our trade and manufactures (owing in a great measure, as we apprehend, to the unhappy disputes with America) and the gloomy situation of our artificers and their families.

"We should be far from wishing to wound your royal ear with the lamentations of distress, but truth obliges us to approach your throne, and humbly to beseech your majesty to adopt such measures as in your royal wisdom shall seem most expedient, for putting a stop to the further effusion of blood, for reconciling Great Britain and her colonies, for reuniting the affections of your now divided people, and for establishing, on a permanent foundation, the peace, commerce and prosperity, of all your majesty's dominions."

Extract of a letter from Quebec, Nov. 7.

"In my last I hinted to you the situation this country was in. Since that period things have grown worse, inasmuch that the country is now involved in three different places. Our friends above will inevitably fall a sacrifice to a rebel banditti, being unable to withstand such powerful opponents; while we in this place are making every preparation for an obstinate defence, being resolved to hold out to the last. So soon as this vessel sails, which I imagine will be the last this year, every citizen will betake himself to arms, as all kinds of business will then in a great measure cease. For these three months past, the inhabitants have already been doing garrison duty, as militia, in which corps I have also the honour to serve, and this day mounted guard, which comes round every fourth day.

"We have at this time about forty pieces of cannon on our ramparts, and every avenue leading to the town properly repaired. The only thing we want is men, there being no regulars in the garrison; however, what with sailors, British settlers, and French (though the latter cannot be much depended upon) we nearly muster 2500. With this force we hope to hold out till we have a reinforcement in the spring; but should that be late in arriving, I am afraid we shall at last be obliged to yield. Indeed, would you believe it, the French, whom the government has done so much for, and relied upon, have taken up arms against us, several of whom are now prisoners amongst us, having been taken in a late engagement near the town. As I shall have no opportunity of writing to Great-Britain till perhaps June next, unless matters are settled at home, you will not be surprised at my silence."

Dec. 29. General Burgoyne is arrived from Boston. An express brought the news to Lord George Germaine about twelve o'clock yesterday morning.

The provincial cruisers have taken a transport which had ordnance stores on board for the use of the king's troops at Boston; amongst other articles are 500 barrels of powder.

It was debated in council to send ships to the relief of Quebec, but was given up as impracticable at this season—so that the first news likely to come from that quarter will be that all Canada is in the hands of the united colonies.

The privy council, which was to have been held on Wednesday evening at Lord George Germaine's office on American affairs, was held at the Earl of Suffolk's office in Cleveland Row, and did not break up till one o'clock in the morning; all the ministers of state were present.

Yesterday morning about eleven o'clock, a privy council was held at the council chamber, at the Cock-

pit, Whitehall, on the result of several bills that have passed in the Irish parliament, and are brought over for his majesty's and the ministry's inspection and assent. The messengers who brought them arrived at Lord Weymouth's office on Wednesday.

General Boscawen, lately arrived from America, is nephew to the late general Boscawen, who died about four months since, and came to England in order to take possession of the estate and effects left him at the demise of his late uncle.

It is an absolute fact, says a correspondent of an evening paper, however secret the junta keep from the public the many feats of the Americans, that the latter were in actual possession of Quebec and Montreal when the last vessel sailed from Canada. This intelligence administration received on Saturday, and on which account a cabinet council was the same day held at Lord G. Germaine's office. The vessel left Canada the 22d of November.

Yesterday one of the transport ships lying off the Tower, after having taken on board clothing and arms for 3000 men, fell down the river to Gravesend, and was to sail the first fair wind for Ireland, to take on board a regiment of soldiers waiting at Corke to embark with all expedition for America.

They write from Cadiz, that a squadron of men of war which had sailed from that port with an intent to bombard the port of Santa Cruz, on the coast of Barbary, belonging to the Emperor of Morocco, had met with a storm, wherein two of the largest ships were lost and their crews perished.

Wednesday night arrived from Quebec by way of Falmouth, Col. Guy Johnston, Superintendent of Indian affairs, and yesterday morning waited on Lord George Germaine; also arrived Dan. Claus, Esq; with his lady and family, from the same place.

When all the intended reinforcement arrives in America, the provincial camp will not be attacked. The plan laid down is said to be this: To destroy every town on the sea coast, to draw their army from one place to another, and harass and starve them if possible; but to be very careful not coming to a general engagement; but if by any means, the provincial army can be divided, then the regulars are to attack them.

Extract of a letter from Portsmouth, Dec. 26.

"Arrived here the Elizabeth, capt. June, from Quebec. She sailed from England the beginning of September, with a cargo of the following stores for general Carleton's army, viz. 10,000 stands of arms, clothing for 10,000 men, 500 barrels of gunpowder, and a large quantity of ball. On her arrival at Quebec, the governor would not suffer the stores to be landed, but ordered the ship to sail immediately for England, lest they should fall into the hands of the provincials."

It is said that gen. Burgoyne, who is lately arrived, has opened the eyes of the ministry, both with respect to the personal courage of the Americans, and the number of well disciplined troops which our armies will have to beat [them] if this war is continued.

Sir Peter Parker, who was stationed to the northern provinces in America, and with whom Lord Cornwallis was to go out, has received counter orders; and it is said he arrived in town last night.

CAMBRIDGE, March 6.

The continental army, assisted by a large body of militia, are now carrying on the siege of Boston with great vigour. Last Saturday night our artillery at the fortresses of Cobble-hill and Letchmore's point, below this town, and at Lamb's dam in Roxbury, bombarded and cannonaded the town; the following night the same was continued with great briskness; and the whole of Monday night the artillery from all the above fortresses played incessantly. Our shot and shells were heard to make a great crashing in the town, but we have not learnt any particulars of the execution done thereby. The enemy returned the fire, from their batteries at West-Boston, and from their lines on the Neck, very vigorously. They threw many shells into the battery at Letchmore's point, one into the fort on Prospect-hill, and one or two as far up as fort No. 2, within a quarter of a mile of the college. On Monday night we had two killed, lieut. Mayo, at Roxbury, by a cannon ball; and a man at Letchmore's point, by a shell, which, with one or two wounded, is all the loss of any consequence that we have sustained. We have but little firing since Tuesday morning.

On Monday night a body of the continental troops took possession of two large hills at Dorchester, about a mile from the south part of Boston, where they are now strongly fortified. These are two of the heights which general Burgoyne laid in a letter to a noble lord, commanded the town of Boston, and which, he also said, it was absolutely necessary the British troops should be possessed of.

NEW-YORK, March 13.

On Sunday last the Swallow packet, capt. Coopland, arrived at Sandy hook, with the mail, in nine weeks, from Falmouth; the letters not being come on shore, we can only favour the public with the following accounts from several gentlemen that came came passengers, viz.

That the restraining bill, whereby all American property, wherever found, would be confiscated, had passed both houses, and had come in this vessel to the respective governors; that commissioners to the number of twenty were about embarking at the time they left Falmouth, in a ninety gun ship, supposed to be bound to Philadelphia, and it was also conjectured they would have unlimited powers to make peace with the different assemblies, but not certain that they would have powers to treat with the continental congress. Lord Howe was fixed for one of the commissioners, and Sir Jeffery Amherst wanted certain conditions if he came on that business; that the French ambassador had informed the ministry that, although his master had only been a spectator of the differences with the colonies, yet, if Great-Britain took foreign troops into pay, they might be assured his master would take an active part in the matter. General Burgoyne, on his arrival at Portsmouth, reported, that he had brought peace in his pocket from the Americans, which is supposed to be the letters that passed between him and our general while at Boston; the people of England are very desirous of peace; the minority increasing very fast.

The brave col. Allen, with about 30 others, who was unfortunately taken prisoner by gen. Carleton, were

confined in Pendennis castle, but were ordered on board to work their passage and do duty on board the fleet that sailed about the time this packet did, with seven regiments from Corke for Virginia, under the command of general Cornwallis.

Extract of a letter from Montreal, Feb. 26.

"We have nothing material new, from camp before Quebec, except a few deserters now and then, who report, that there is a scarcity of provisions, and that gen. Carleton has promised the sailors in town 100 pounds each and 200 acres of land, whenever they choose it, if they will defend the town till a reinforcement comes in the spring. Capt. Lamb and the rest of the prisoners we hear are well."

PHILADELPHIA.

In CONGRESS, March 9, 1776.

Resolved, That no oath, by way of test, be imposed upon, exacted or required of any of the inhabitants of the colonies, by any military officer.

Extract from the minutes,

Published by order of Congress,

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in the West-Indies to his friend in this city, dated Feb. 14.

"We have just heard that a brig and a sloop from some part of America, laden with lumber, are taken by one of the English cruisers close in with St. Pierre, Martinico. This conduct enraged the French general, who immediately gave orders for one of his frigates to cruise and protect every American vessel within their limits."

Philadelphia, March 11, 1776.

The hon. general assembly have voted 1500 men for the immediate defence of this province, viz. two battalions of rifle men, and one battalion of musket-men.

Yesterday the sloop Tanny, captain Hayman, arrived here from Ocracock, in North-Carolina, which he left about 13 days ago. By him we learn, that governor Martin, at the head of about 700 regulators and Tories, had got between the two provincial armies, commanded by the colonels Ash and Caldwell, in order to prevent their joining, but it was thought he would not be able to accomplish his design, as great numbers from all parts were daily going to the assistance of the colonels. He also informs that the Tories and regulators had not been joined by so considerable a number of Scotch settlers as was expected.

Intelligence is received from the camp at Cambridge, that a cannonading and bombardment had begun on the night of Saturday the 2d instant, and continued the two following nights; during which time a vast number of shot and shells were thrown into the town, under the cover of which the general possessed himself of the heights of Dorchester. On the enemy's perceiving this on Tuesday morning, they were in the greatest confusion, hurry and bustle, and embarked their troops in order to attack us before we had made our lodgement; but the violent storm which came on that day prevented them from receiving, and us from the honour of giving them a good drubbing. Our troops are now forming a battery upon Nook's-hill, which commands the south of Boston, and to which their shipping lie much exposed.

General Howe, in his great tenderness to preserve the town of Boston from destruction, has, by a flag of truce sent out by the select men, asked permission to embark his troops, and sail without molestation. This permission it is possible he may obtain, on condition that he leaves his whole artillery and military stores behind him. It is supposed that general Howe intends to remove his quarters to the city of New-York; and it is hoped that every proper measure will be taken for his reception.

Extract of a letter from New York, March 13.

"To day an express arrived from the eastward, to-night the post. My advices are, that on the night of the 2d instant (Saturday) we threw three bombs into Boston from Letchmore's point, the enemy returned a number. Two seven inch, ten inch mortar, and the Congress, burst; the latter after firing twice or thrice. Two or three bombs thrown in from Roxbury, and two 24 pounders fired—nothing in return. Monday 4th, at night, took possession of Dorchester with 2000 men, under gen. Thomas, and 300 carts; before morning had an astonishing work completed on the top of each of the two greatest heights; some of the carts made three trips, others two, without interruption; the night amazingly favourable—three of our men killed—firing on both sides. The two hills we have taken possession of command the front of Boston and south side of the harbour. At noon (the 5th) the enemy made a weak ineffectual fire for two hours. In the evening they embarked about 2000 men in 5 transports, and sent them down towards the castle; a floating battery was also towed down; before they reached the castle the wind blew up fresh at south and forced three of the transports ashore on Governor's island, where they lay all night. The 6th all quiet. In the evening many soldiers were landed from the transports in front of the town. The select men of Boston, or some of the principal inhabitants, apprehending Howe was about to embark, desired him not to destroy the town upon his leaving it. He told them he would not, if general Washington would not disturb them in their embarkation; they desired leave to go out with a flag to tell him so;—granted—don't hear that he made any promise, and I do not suppose he will, for it is undoubtedly a trick of Howe's, in order to get away his cannon and stores as well as men. A letter to our congress, I am informed, intimates that general Washington apprehends the enemy will decamp and flee for this city:—our works are going on, and if they come, hope we shall be ready for them."

By capt. Bernard, from Nantucket, we hear that a ship of 300 tons burthen, which had arrived at Sandy hook from England, and was ordered from thence to Boston; had got aground, in a gale of wind, between Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, when some people from Martha's Vineyard fitted out an armed sloop, and with sundry small boats engaged the ship, and after an obstinate battle took her, wounded the captain with several of the men, and carried them into Martha's Vineyard. We also learn, that a transport, bound from Boston to New-York, was cast away on Cape Cod, and boarded by our people, who found on board her a quantity of dollars with ten ton of lead and shot.

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"Capt. Manly, arthen, laden w packages of m barrels of powde rry."

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Extra of a letter from Cambridge, March 9.

"Capt. Manly has taken another transport, 400 tons
arthen, laden with peas, potatoes, pork, four-grout,
packages of medicine, 6 carriage guns, 4 swivels, 3
barrels of powder, &c. and carried her into New-
bury."

To the PEOPLE of PENNSYLVANIA.

LETTER II.

AS I propose to take my subjects as they rise out of
the times, I shall leave to my next letter the fur-
ther defence of our assembly, to give room for a matter
of very great importance, agreeable to what was hinted
in the conclusion of my first letter.

The account which we have already received of
commissioners being appointed in England, and ready to
embark for America, in order to negotiate a settlement
of the present unhappy differences, has engaged the at-
tention, and exercised the speculations of many among
us. The powers with which they are to be invested,
the manner in which they are to be received, how they
are to be treated with, or whether they are to be treated
with at all, have been canvassed agreeably to the dif-
ferent views or judgments of individuals.

Among others, a writer under the signature of Cas-
andra, in the Pennsylvania Evening Post of last Satur-
day week, has held forth sentiments which I conceive
highly disgraceful to America, and pernicious to so-
ciety in general. He pretends to have satisfied himself
(but upon what grounds I know not) that the sole view
of administration in this commission is to amuse and
deceive, to bribe and corrupt us. And because he sup-
poses all of us so very corruptible, he proposes, by way
of prevention, to seize the commissioners upon their first
setting foot on shore, and bring them immediately, un-
der a strong guard, to the congress. I have too good
an opinion of the virtue and good sense of my country-
men, to think they will pay any other regard to this
advice than to consider the author as an enthusiast or
madman.

The contest in which we are engaged is founded on
the most noble and virtuous principles which can ani-
mate the mind of man. We are contending, at the
risk of our lives and fortunes, against an arbitrary mi-
nistry, for the rights of Englishmen. The eyes of all
Europe are upon us, and every generous bosom, in
which the pulse of liberty yet beats, sympathizes with
us and is interested in our success. Our cause, there-
fore, being the cause of virtue, it will be expected that all
our steps should be guided by it, and that where the stock
is so fair the fruit will be proportionably perfect. Let us
not disappoint these sanguine expectations by the small-
est deviation from those liberal and enlarged sentiments
which should mark the conduct of freemen; and when
the faithful HISTORIC page shall record the events of
this GLORIOUS STRUGGLE, may not a single line in
the bright annals be stained by the recital of a disgrace-
ful action, nor future Americans have cause to blush
for the failings of their ancestors.

I trust that there is not such another barbarian among
us as Casandra. I am sure there are none such among
our savage neighbours. To what is it that he would
persuade us? To receive with contempt, and treat with
insult, men commissioned to negotiate with us about
matters of the highest concern to America, and at least
professing peace? Persons clothed with the character of
ambassadors, which has been uniformly esteemed sacred
by every nation and in every age!

Can a precedent be produced in any country, or at
any period, which could be proposed for our imitation,
or give countenance to such a proceeding? Let this
writer turn over the volumes which establish the prin-
ciples of the *law of nations*. Let him search the history
of every state both ancient and modern, civilized and
uncivilized, he will find none so fierce and rude as not
to reverence the rights of ambassadors, and consider
any insult of their persons as the grossest outrage that
could be committed. Nay, let him enquire among the
numerous tribes of Indians that surround our frontiers,
for some example to countenance him in his proposal!
These untutored savages would startle at the question,
and wonder that there could be a person so ignorant as
not to know that *public messengers*, with the CALUMET
in their hands, are entitled to audience, respect, and
hospitality. And shall Americans, glorying in their at-
tachment to the rights of humanity, be the first to vio-
late obligations which have been thus universally held
sacred? No! Let us never give that advantage to those
who have been striving to excite the indignation of
mankind against us as faithless people, ferocious, barba-
rous, and uninfluenced by those humane sentiments and
noble feelings which, in modern times, have, in some
measure, softened the horrors of war. We know that
such a charge is as malicious as it is groundless. In-
stances enough might be produced to refute it, since
this contest was carried on by arms; and I trust no fu-
ture ones will be found which might have a tendency to
support it.

As we have long professed an ardent desire of peace,
let us meet those who bring the terms with that virtu-
ous confidence which is inseparable from an upright
conduct. Let us hear their proposals with patience,
and consider them with candour; remembering how
deeply the happiness of millions may be concerned in
the issue. If what they offer be such as *freemen* ought
to accept, my voice shall be for an immediate reconcilia-
tion; as I know of no object so worthy of a patriot
as the healing our wounds, and the restoring of peace,
if it has for its basis an *effectual* security for the lib-
erties of America. If, on the contrary, the terms which
may be offered should be such as we cannot accept, we
have only to say so, and the negotiation will be at an
end.

But this writer is greatly concerned for our virtue;
lest we should be cajoled, deceived and corrupted. I
confess these fears appear to me so groundless, that I
suspect their reality. Is it possible, in good earnest, to
entertain so ill an opinion of those who have staked
their lives and fortunes on this contest, as to believe
that they will suffer themselves to be flattered out of
their liberties, or induced to sell their birthright for a
mess of pottage?

When I consider that this treaty is to be managed,
in the part of America, by men delegated for their in-
tegrity and abilities by the voice of their country, I feel
myself quite easy on that score. If the scheme of the
ministry be to try the *arts of corruption*, where their
arms cannot prevail, there are other and less suspicious

ways of carrying it into execution; than by commis-
sioners in the face of America, where they will have
the eyes of all fixed upon them, and their conduct dili-
gently watched and severely scrutinized.

Upon the whole, it appears that this writer is more an
enemy to the business on which the commissioners are
to be sent, than really apprehensive for our virtue. He
seems to have drank deep of the *cup of independency*; to
be inimical to whatever carries the appearance of peace;
and too ready to sacrifice the happiness of a great con-
tinent to his favourite plan. Among such writers I
pretend not to class myself; for I am bold to declare,
and hope yet to make it evident to every honest man,
that the true interest of America lies in *reconciliation*
with Great-Britain, upon *constitutional principles*, and I
can truly say, I wish it upon no other terms.

Why the many publications in favour of *independ-
ency*, with which our presses have lately groaned, have
passed hitherto unnoticed, I am not able to determine.
But there are certainly times when public affairs be-
come so interesting, that every man becomes a debtor to
the community for his opinions, either in speaking or
writing. Perhaps it was thought best, where an *appeal*
was pretended to be made to the COMMON SENSE of
this country, to leave the people for a while to the free
exercise of that good understanding which they are
known to possess. Those who made the *appeal* have
little cause to triumph in its success. Of this they
seem sensible; and, like true quacks, are constantly per-
ferring us with their additional doses, till the stomachs
of their patients begin wholly to revolt. If little notice
has yet been taken of the publications concerning inde-
pendency, it is neither owing to the popularity of the
doctrine, the unanswerable nature of the arguments,
nor the fear of opposing them, as the vanity of the au-
thors would suggest. I am confident that nine-tenths
of the people of Pennsylvania yet adhere to the doctrine.

If we look back to the origin of the present contro-
versy, it will appear that some among us at least have
been constantly enlarging their views, and stretching
them beyond their first bounds, till at length they have
wholly changed their ground. From the claim of parlia-
ment to tax us sprung the first resistance on our part.
Before that unjust claim was set on foot, not an individ-
ual, not one of all the profound legislators with which
this country abounds, ever held out the idea of indepen-
dency. We considered our connection with Great-Britain
as our chief happiness—we flourished, grew rich,
and populous, to a degree not to be paralleled in history.
Let us then act the part of skilful physicians, and wisely
adapt the remedy to the evil.

Possibly some men may have harboured the idea of
independence from the beginning of this controversy.
Indeed it was strongly suspected that there were individ-
uals whose views tended that way; but as the scheme
was not sufficiently ripened, it was reckoned slanderous,
imprudent to America, and what not, to intimate the least
suspicion of this kind.

Nor have many weeks yet elapsed since the first open
proposition for independence was published to the world.
—By what men of consequence this scheme is supported,
or whether by any, may possibly be the subject of future
enquiry.—Certainly it has no countenance from the
congress, to whose sentiments we look up with rever-
ence. On the contrary, it is directly repugnant to
every declaration of that respectable body. It would
be needless to quote particular passages in proof of this,
as they are to be met with in almost every page of their
proceedings. I will refer to a few only. viz. their re-
solves, March 5, 1775—their declaration, July 6—their
address to the king, July 8—their letter to the lord
mayor of London—and more especially their declara-
tion for a fast, June 12, in which, with the deepest
marks of sincerity, they call upon all America to join
with them in addressing the great governor of the world
—"humbly beseeching him to avert the delatating
judgments with which we are threatened, to bless our
rightful sovereign, &c.—that so America may soon be-
hold a gracious interposition of heaven for the redress
of her many grievances, the restoration of her invaded
rights, and reconciliation with the parent state, on
terms constitutional and honourable to both." Will
any one be so hardy as to say, that either the appoint-
ment or observation of this solemn day was a mere
mockery of heaven and earth, or even that any Amer-
ican joined in it, who was not sincere?—I trust not.
But it multiplying authorities were of any use, I might
add the sentiments of our own representatives in assem-
bly, expressed in the instructions to their delegates; the
sentiments of Maryland in similar instructions; the re-
solves of New-Jersey and New-Hampshire; nor shall the
much injured province of Massachusetts-Bay be left out
of the catalogue; whose provincial congress, while yet
bleeding with the wounds received at Lexington, thus
addressed the inhabitants of Great-Britain—"These
are marks of ministerial vengeance against this colony,
but they have not yet detached us from our royal sover-
eign, &c. trusting that in a constitutional connexion
with the mother country, we shall soon be a free and
happy people." These were the sentiments of the col-
ony of the Massachusetts, signed by that great martyr
to liberty, Dr. WARREN, and soon after sealed with
his blood.

The sentiments of sundry other colonies might be
shewn to have corresponded with these.—But this letter
has already reached its full length. I shall take some
future opportunity to examine the arguments which
have been offered to induce a change of these senti-
ments; and upon the whole I doubt not to make it ap-
pear that independence is not the cause in which Amer-
ica is now engaged, and is only the idol of those who
wish to subvert all order among us, and rise on the ruin
of their country!

CATO.

BALTIMORE, March 12.

To the public in general and the ladies in particular.

Our repose which we have hitherto enjoyed, in pre-
ference to our neighbouring colonies, is at last dis-
turbed; and we are now called forth to our defence.
The slavery with which our brave countrymen assem-
ble, and the determination to fight, visible in every
countenance, demonstrate, that if the enemy should
be hardy enough to encounter them; we have reason
to expect some wounds. The necessity of taking all
imaginable care of those who may happen to be
wounded, (in the country's cause) urges us to address
our humane ladies, to lend us their kind assistance in
furnishing us with linen rags, and old sheeting for

bandages, &c. to be delivered either to Dr. Wiesen-
thall, Dr. Boyd, Dr. Craddock, or any member of
the committee.

It is recommended to all the printers in this pro-
vince to publish the above.

47

ANNAPOLIS, March 21.

We are informed, by a gentleman from North-Car-
olina, that on the first of this instant, an engagement
happened between col. Calwell, and the regulators, in
which the latter were totally routed, with the loss of
McCloud, their leader, and 20 or 30 others killed,---
M Donald, the second in command, with near 40 more
taken prisoners, together with seven or eight waggons,
containing their baggage, &c.

PREROGATIVE OFFICE,

March 11, 1776.

WHEREAS the records of the commissary's office
are removed to Upper Marlborough, by the
direction of the Council of Safety for the province of
Maryland, I am directed to give this public notice,
that the common business of that office will from hence-
forth be transacted at that place.

And as the commissary's courts are by law appointed
to be held at the city of Annapolis, where the same
must indispensably be continued, the commissary ge-
neral, anxious to relieve as far as in his power the dif-
ficulties arising to the people, from the removal of the
records to such distance from the capital, hath resolved
to attend at both places in every court week, which
will be on the second Tuesdays of May, July, Septem-
ber, and November; and to that end, will hold his
courts every second Tuesday in said month at the city
of Annapolis, for the convenience of the inhabitants
of the Eastern shore, and others, whom it may be-
suit. And he will from thence proceed on the Thurs-
day to Upper Marlborough, there to sit during the
remainder of the week for the dispatch of public busi-
ness.

I also give notice, that for the greater ease and con-
venience of the inhabitants of Anne Arundel county,
who may have business with me as deputy commissary
of that county, I shall give attendance every Tuesday
at the house of Mr. Cornelius G. Treaton in the city of
Annapolis for that purpose.

ELIE VALLETTE, register.

March 19, 1776.

To be opened a South-river, on Thursday the 21st
instant, by the subscriber hereto,
THE LATIN SCHOOL, where any gentlemen that
are pleased to send their children, may expect to
have the greatest justice done them.

EUGENE FERRIS.

N.B. Any gentlemen that want to board their chil-
dren, will meet with the best accommodations at Mr.
Geard Hopkins, jun. Mr. John Cowman, Mr. Henry
Hall, and Mr. David Evans.

March 15, 1776.

THIS is to give notice to all persons concerned,
that I intend to appraise the estate of Mr. James
McCubbin, deceased, at his late dwelling plantation
in Anne-Arundel county, on Tuesday the 16th day of
April next.

WILLIAM WOODWARD, admr.

Mess. Joseph Warfield and John Marriott appointed
appraisers by the commissary.

Wanted immediately, delivered at the contractor's
store in Annapolis,

A QUANTITY of potatoes, parsneps, carrots,
beans, cockstone beans, or any kind of Indian
peas, for which will be given the highest prices, by
ISAAC M' HARD,
for Mr. ROBERT CUMMINS.

March 19, 1776.

DROPPED on the 11th instant, from a waggon,
between Annapolis and Mr. Hall's plantation,
the Vineyard, a raw hide and a servant's great coat.
Whoever will bring them to the house of the subscri-
ber in Annapolis, or to Mr. Foot's tavern on the
Baltimore road, may receive one dollar reward.

CHARLES CARROLL, of Carrollton.

THREE POUNDS REWARD.

Baltimore, March 11, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, on Saturday night
last, an English-indentured servant man, named
John Gibb, by trade a breeches-maker and leather-
dresser, about 28 years of age, 5 feet 9 or 10 inches
high, able bodied and well made, pretty full ruddy
face, speaks thick, short black hair inclined to curl,
and is fond of liquor: had on a brown coarse short
cloth coat with broad white metal buttons, a blue
jacket with a brown piece in the back, snabrig or
fire white shirt, buckskin breeches, blue stockings,
and a pair of pumps with a piece of buckskin on the
sole of one of them. As he has been some time in the
army, and on ship board in the British service, it is
believed he intends to get on board the enemy's ves-
sels. Whoever secures him, so that his master may
get him again, shall receive the above reward, if out
of the province and brought home five pounds reward,
from

ABRAHAM CLAUDE,

WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, and SILVERSMITH,

Opposite Mrs. Johnson's tavern, ANNAPOLIS,

BEGS leave to acquaint the public in general,
and his friends in particular, that he will conti-
nue to carry on the above trades in all their various
branches, and at the most reasonable rates; also that
he cleans and repairs all sorts of fire-arms, small
swords, hangers, and cutlasses. He also makes hooks
for swords in the neatest and most approved manner.

N.B. He has several groils of hoot- and even to
dispose of cheap.

RULES for regulating and governing the forces to be raised and employed in the service of the province of Maryland, concluded.

56. That all inferior court-martials shall be appointed by the colonel or commanding officer of the battalion, corps, garrison, party, or station to which the offender belongs, and the members thereof shall take the same oath, to be administered in like manner as the members of a general court-martial.

57. That every court-martial administer an oath to every witness produced before them in the following words, to wit: "You do swear, that the evidence you shall give in the case in hearing, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So help you GOD."

58. That the members of every court-martial shall take the same rank as they hold in the army, and shall behave themselves with calmness, decency, and moderation, and in giving in their votes shall begin with the lowest in commission, and the sentence of the court shall be given according to the majority of votes, except in capital cases as before mentioned.

59. That in all trials of field officers, two thirds of the number that constitute the court-martial, shall be of the degree of a captain at least.

60. That no person shall suffer death under any article, unless the pain of death is expressly annexed by such article to his crime, nor shall any person be punished for any crime or offence, except for shamefully abandoning his post in an engagement, until he shall be convicted thereof by a general or inferior court-martial.

61. That no inferior court-martial shall be competent to pass sentence for any greater punishment on a commissioned officer than a pecuniary fine not exceeding twelve dollars, or reprimand or censure, or to ask pardon; or on a non-commissioned officer or soldier for a greater punishment than a pecuniary fine not exceeding half a month's pay, or for five days close imprisonment, or for whipping on the bare back not exceeding fifteen lashes.

62. That in all cases where the sentence is discretionary, no general court-martial shall adjudge the offender, if a commissioned officer, to suffer any greater punishment than a fine or forfeiture of his pay to the amount of ten pounds, to make proper concessions or to ask pardon, to be reprimanded or cashiered, or discharged from the service; or if the offender be a non-commissioned officer or private, a forfeiture of his pay for one month, or a fine to the value thereof, close imprisonment not exceeding ten days, or whipping with thirty-nine lashes on the bare back, and drumming out of the company.

63. No sentence of death shall be executed on any offender before the proceedings shall be certified to and approved by the Council of Safety, who may in their discretion pardon the offender; nor shall any sentence of a general or inferior court-martial for whipping, be executed before the same shall be made known to and approved by the commanding officer of the battalion, corps, garrison or station to which the offender belongs, and such commanding officer may in his discretion remit such punishment.

64. All fines shall be paid into the hands of such persons as shall be directed by the court-martial that sit the same, and shall be applied to the relief of the sick of the company to which the offender belongs.

65. That these rules shall be openly and distinctly read at the head of every corps, garrison, company, or part of a company, stationed at any one place, once at least in every month, under the penalty of twenty pounds on the officer commanding such corps, garrison, company or part of a company.

Signed by order,

G. DUVALL, clk.

THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY desirous of forwarding the intentions of the convention in promoting the manufacture of salt, salt-petre, gunpowder, and fire-arms, request any persons who are inclined to engage on liberal encouragement in the manufacture of fire-arms, or to erect a powder-mill in the neighbourhood of Baltimore-town, where it will be most beneficial, or salt, or salt-petre works, that they will send their proposals in writing to Gabriel Duvall, clerk of the council of safety, and they shall be attended to and speedily answered.

TO BE SOLD,

A VALUABLE tract of land, containing 280 acres more or less, situated upon Rock creek in Frederick county, within four miles of George-town and eight of Bladensburg, 150 acres whereof are in wood, and the remainder inclosed by a good fence; there are about ten acres of the aforesaid land may be made good meadow with little trouble. I have likewise for sale 25 acres of land near or adjoining the town of Upper Marlborough, in Prince George's county, with good improvements thereon, and a valuable mill in good repair, and grinds all seasons. For terms apply to Robert Whitaker near the aforesaid town, or William Belt in Frederick county.

March 5, 1776.

To be sold by the subscribers,
A FEW barrels and half barrels of strong and small beer, brewed by Mr. Isaac Perkins, in Kent county. This beer is allowed to be the best made in this province.

TWO, C. WILLIAMS and CO.

THE subscriber acquaints his brother tradesmen (especially those that have engaged in the country service) that he will furnish them with gun-barrels well forged, fitted, and bored, agreeable to the directions of the honourable the Continental Congress, at the moderate price of three dollars per barrel, which will enable the purchaser and finisher to make a good profit to himself, and will expedite the supplying the provincial magazine, so much wanted and desired. He can, without any unforeseen accident or misfortune, furnish thirty or forty barrels per month, besides those that he finishes for his friends that apply to him for either rifles or smooth guns; and if any of the barrels sold by him to any person should fail on proof with a double charge of powder and ball, he will give another barrel in lieu thereof.

AZEL WARFIELD.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of John Eden, late of St. Mary's county, deceased, by bond, note, or book debt, are requested to make immediate payment; and all persons, having any just claims against the said estate, are desired to bring them in, that they may be adjusted.

TOWNSHEND EDEN, executor.

February 27, 1776.

THE creditors of the rev. Mr. John Macpherion are desired to meet at Port-Tobacco, on the 18th day of March next, to receive their dividend of what money may then be in the hands of the trustees for the creditors of said Macpherion.

SAMUEL LOVE, acting trustee.

THERE is at the plantation of Thomas Welsh, in Prince-George's county, near Snowdens iron-works, taken up as a stray, a chefnut roan mare, about 11 hands high, branded on the near buttock N, has a large blaze in her forehead, and appears to be about 3 years old. The owner may have her again on proving property and paying charges.

Annapolis, February 27, 1776.

To be sold at the subscriber's store, for ready money only,

A Quantity of pig lead, window glass, white lead in oil, glue, Spanish whiting; likewise 4d. 8d. 10l. and 20l. nails; 3d. 4d. 6d. 8d. 10d. and 20d. brads, and about 50 groce of wood screws, on very low terms, the packages will not be opened, but sold by the barrel or parcel.

THOMAS HYDE.

To the PUBLIC.

Head of Severn, about a mile from Severn chapel.

February 28, 1776.

THE subscriber being appointed deputy clerk of Anne-Arundel county, hereby gives notice, that the records of said county are removed to his house, by order of the council of safety, where attendance will be given, every Monday, for recording deeds, searching and giving copies.

REZIN GAITHER.

Attendance will be given every Wednesday and Friday, in Annapolis, for issuing the several processes of the court, by

JOHN BRICE.

Maryland, Somerset county, Feb. 15, 1776.

THE visitors of Eden school, in the county aforesaid, hereby give notice, that they want a master for said school. Any person inclinable to undertake, that is properly qualified, and can come well recommended, is desired to apply as soon as possible. The master's salary in said school is one hundred and thirty pounds per annum, with diet, washing and lodging found.

Signed by request of the Visitors,

HENRY LOWES.

FORTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Frederick county, Maryland, Halling's river, February 14, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, last night, viz. Irish servant men, both weavers by trade, viz. Christopher Warren, about five feet four inches high; had on, when he went away, a short pale blue coat, which has been turned, and is double breasted, with black horn buttons, and a pair of brown cloth trousers; he has short curled black hair, a very long nose which appears to lean to one side of his face, dark eyes, and a few blue spots in his face, which appear to be specks of gunpowder; he is about thirty-five years of age. George Murdy, about twenty years of age, five feet eight inches high, fair complexion, gray eyes, straight black hair; had on, when he went away, two striped country cloth jackets; one pair of striped country cloth breeches. They took with them two horses, two saddles, and two bridles; one a roan horse with a black mane and tail, trots and gallops, branded on the near shoulder L.F., about fourteen hands high, and goes dull on the road; the other a small bay horse about fourteen hands high, branded on the near shoulder O, paces and gallops, and sped before. Whoever takes up the said servants and horses, and secures them, so that the owner may get them again, shall receive the above reward, paid by

GEORGE SNELL.

N. B. It is probable they may have other cloaths with them, or get their own changed.

STRAYED or stolen, from Mr. James Baldwin's plantation, near Mr. Toote's tavern, on the 28th of January, a small black horse; his ears and mane have lately been trimmed, is three all round, has a great many gray hairs in his foretop, and a long bob-tail; It is supposed he is gone towards Seneca, which place he came from last. Whoever will deliver him to Mr. James Baldwin, or to the subscriber, in Annapolis, shall receive twenty shillings.

EDWARD THOMPSON.

To be sold at public vendue, by the subscriber, on the second Tuesday in April next, on the premises, by virtue of a power of attorney from Mr. John Key, eldest son and heir at law of Francis Key, late of Cecil county, Esq; deceased.

A VALUABLE plantation, containing about three hundred acres, being part of a tract of land called and known by the name of Anna Catherine Neck, or Carpenters Point, situate, lying and being in Cecil county aforesaid, at the head of Chesapeake Bay, near the mouth of North-Balt river, and about three miles from Charles-Town. There is on the said plantation, an exceeding fine fishery, part of which at present rents for near one hundred pounds per annum.

Also to be sold at public vendue, the houses and lots in Charles-Town, formerly the property of the said Francis Key, the day after the sale of the aforesaid plantation.

JAMES BROOKS.

Patuxent Iron Works, February 6, 1776.

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

SAMUEL and JOHN SNOWDEN.

February 15, 1775.

S. L. I. M.

To be let to mares the ensuing season, at Sandgate farm, close by Mr. Stuart's rope-walk, and within a mile of Annapolis.

THE high bred English horse, S. L. I. M., full fifteen hands high, rising seven years old. Slim is of a beautiful dark chefnut colour, was got by Wild-an's Babram, his dam by Rogers's Babram, his grandam by Sedbury out of Lord Portmore's Ebony; is well suited to breed for either the saddle or turf, being remarkably light, and quick in his movements, free from any blemish or incumbrance of gum, and is imagined equal to any horse on the continent, four mile heats at nine stone. He will be let at six dollars, for the season, and half a crown to the groom, and as to so low a rate the cash will be expected before the horse is led out. Good pasture for mares to be had at half a crown a week, or at half a dollar, with proper feeding.

Annapolis, August 23, 1775.

WANTED immediately, a number of hands who are acquainted in the different branches of the manufacture of fire arms—good wages and encouragement will be given to such as have been used to work in any branch, according to their proficiency and industry, either by the piece or time.—As good locksmiths, or other nearliers, will be soon handy in making several parts of gun locks, to such also I will give good encouragement.—There are many servants about the country who would be very useful in the necessary business I am now engaging in; I should be glad to be informed of such, and wish to hire them, or purchase their times of service of their master.

ISAAC HARRIS.

N. B. I want to hire a good file-cutter.

STRAYED or stolen from Annapolis, on the 24th of November, a bright bay horse, about 14 hands and an inch high, paces, trots, and gallops, has a long mane, is shod before, and has a scar upon his back occasioned by a fet lock. Whoever will deliver him to Mr. Garretson, in Annapolis, or to the subscriber, shall receive 20 shillings.

OVERTON CARR.

Annapolis, Nov. 5, 1775.

RAN away last night from the subscriber, the two following servants, viz. William Webster, an Englishman, a hatter by trade, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, 25 years of age, long dark brown hair, curled behind, turned up before, and curled at the ears, thin faced, thick lips, and walks parrot-toed; is a forward talkative fellow, and can be very compliant when he pleases. Had on and took with him, a light blue gray cloth coat and waistcoat, the coat has been turned, one red cloth waistcoat, one pair white Russia drab breeches, one white linen shirt, two brown Russia sheeting ditto. It is probable he has other cloaths, or may have changed those described.

Charles Tiffin, or Tipping, by trade a gardener, and can work a little at the carpenter's business, about 5 feet 6 inches high, remarkably thick set, full face, short brown hair. Had on and took with him, a short brown working coat with metal buttons, a blue cloth jacket with sleeves and metal buttons, good buckskin breeches, one pair white Russia drab ditto, one white shirt, two brown Russia sheeting, ditto, and may have sundry other cloaths.

The above servants went off in a two mast boat, and four oars, in company with some others. They took a pair of osenabrig sheets, which it is supposed they intend to make sails of. Whoever will secure the above servants so that their master may get them again, shall receive 20 shillings for each if 40 miles, 40 shillings for each if 100 miles, or if out of the province 50 shillings each, and if brought home, reasonable charges, paid by

WILLIAM REYNOLDS.

N. B. Webster had on a good vest for hat, and a pair of osenabrig sheets, which it is supposed they intend to make sails of. Whoever will secure the above servants so that their master may get them again, shall receive 20 shillings for each if 40 miles, 40 shillings for each if 100 miles, or if out of the province 50 shillings each, and if brought home, reasonable charges, paid by

T H U R S D A Y, MARCH 28, 1776.

L O N D O N, Jan. 2.

IN the house of commons of Ireland, on Thursday, Dec. 21, the bill to grant the old and new additional duties, was read a second time.

On the question being put, that the bill be committed, Dr. Clement reported from the committee of comparison, that this money bill had been altered in England, by leaving out the two clauses relative to the 4000 troops allowed to be sent abroad, according to his excellency's message; and the question passed in the negative.

Mr. Malone moved, that this bill be rejected, which was carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Ogle then moved, that the bill be burnt before the door of the parliament-house, by the hands of the common hangman, and that the sheriffs of Dublin be ordered to see it done.

Mr. Malone replied, the bill was returned under the great seal of England, and it would be a great indignity to it.

Mr. Robert French was against the motion: He could wish, he said, the house would act with firmness, but it should also regard its own dignity.

Mr. Ogle answered, the great seal would help to burn it; and he should never regard the great seal when it was affixed to an affront to the house.

Mr. solicitor general said, he did not imagine any affront was intended by the alteration.

Mr. Ogle then withdrew his motion.

The stamp-bill was then read a second time, and rejected *nem. con.* on Dr. Clement's reporting these words, "and such commissioners and inferior officers as shall be appointed by the lord lieutenant" had been added in England.

By a letter from Cork, dated Dec. 23, we are informed, that the Marquis of Rockingham transport, which sailed from Portsmouth, with the 33d regiment on board, was wrecked, between Cork and Kinsale, the 21st, when Lieut. Marsh, ensign Sandiman, the captain of the ship, all the crew, except four, with all the women and children, and upwards of 100 soldiers, were drowned.

By the last advices from the coast of Coromandel we learn, that Mahomed Ali Khan, Nabob of Arcot, who is nearly in a state of dotage, had applied to our ministry for their assistance in fixing the succession of his government on Omirah Omrah, his second son, in prejudice to the elder: That this commission was intrusted to the conduct of some inferior servants of the company, who have been promised their douceurs upon its success. Our correspondent, who favours us with this intelligence, is perfectly acquainted with the characters and dispositions of the two brothers, and wholly accuses this conduct of the father to a jealousy inherent in Asiatic princes in their decline, who are always then alarmed at seeing their immediate successor too popular during their own lives. He paints the eldest son in the most amiable, the second in the most odious colours, owing to his cruelty, pride, craft, and duplicity. He trusts that our country, who must have all the tender feelings of a father, will not stain his honour by joining in such an unnatural scheme.

SPEECH of Mr. DEMPSTER, in the house of commons, on Friday the 27th of October, 1775.

I DO not rise, Sir, to trouble the house on the subject of the question more immediately under its consideration. The noble lord (lord North) who spoke some time ago has, in my opinion, concluded that matter fully and desirably. He has declared his willingness to accept of an indemnity, if the legality of the measure of introducing foreign troops into our distant garrisons and forts shall appear doubtful to the house. The expediency of that measure nobody has disputed, its legality alone is called in question, and in my opinion very justly so; but as this point will be settled by an act of indemnity, what more can be said? What more can we desire? The business is concluded.

But, Sir, I am induced, though at a late hour of the night, to say a few words on something that fell from the same noble lord, and that has since fallen from other gentlemen of great weight and authority in this house; from what they have said, Sir, a ray of comfort breaks in upon us. That dark and portentous cloud, that has hung so long over Great-Britain and America, fraught with numberless ills to both, begins to break and clear up. Within this half hour, I am induced to entertain a hope, to which I have been long a stranger, that there will be an end to bloodshed, and that peace, harmony and happiness, may be again restored to this distracted empire.

To forward this most desirable object, as far as lies in my power, is my sole motive for saying a very few words.

The noble lord has disclaimed any intention of enslaving America. He has gone so far as to say that he would not object to restoring her to the footing on which she stood in the year 1763, was there a probability of America being now satisfied with this concession.

Another right honourable gentleman [Mr. Rigby] of great abilities and a leader of no inconsiderable party in this house, has just now declared, that he will not fight with America for a paltry duty upon tea. And a third right hon. gentleman (Sir Gilbert Elliot) not short of the former in consideration and weight among us, has expressly affirmed, that he will not consent to an armament sailing against America, unless the same fleet shall carry reasonable offers of accommodation to that quarter of the globe.

There appears for the first time, by what has fallen from these three noble and honourable persons a disposition to relinquish the great bone of contention between

our colonies and their parent state; I mean Sir, the exercise of the right of taxing them, unrepresented as they are, in parliament. I hope, Sir, the house will revert to our ancient system of governing the colonies: For till we abandon this new fangled system of taxing them *here*, a system no older than the conclusion of the last war, I will venture to affirm that no coercive measures, short of extermination, will ever compel the Americans to submit to it.

There is no subject on which I have employed more reflection than on the grounds of our present dispute with America; the result has been an opinion by which I believe I shall abide as long as I breathe; it is Sir, that in my conscience I think the claim of the Americans is just and well founded, to be left in the free exercise of the right of taxing themselves in their several provincial assemblies, in the same manner that Ireland now does and always has done. By this beautiful part of our constitution our wise ancestors have bound together the different and distant parts of this mighty empire; by this single principle, heretofore inviolate, they have diffused, in a most unexampled manner, the blessings of liberty and good government through our remotest provinces. Look, Sir, into the history of the provinces of other states, of the Roman provinces in ancient time; of the French, Spanish, Dutch, and Turkish provinces, of more modern date, and you will find every page of it stained with acts of oppressive violence, of cruelty, injustice and peculation; but in the British provinces, the annual meetings of their little assemblies have constantly restrained the despotism, and corrected the follies of their governors; they watch over the administration of justice, and from time to time enact such salutary regulations as tend to promote their happiness and well being. And what, Sir, I beseech you, could ensure the regular meeting of those assemblies, ever troublesome to governors, but their retaining in their own hands, like us at home, the power of granting the funds necessary for defraying the current expence of government. Were your provincial assemblies deprived of this power, I cannot see wherein the government of America would differ from that of Indostan. And have our enquiries, in a former session, into the administration of Bengal, made us in love with the eastern species of government? Do we seriously wish to transplant the tie rapine and cruelties of India to America?

But now, Sir, that this system is given up to our colonies, peace will speedily follow the concession.

I cannot, Sir, but commend, in the warmest terms, the intention expressed by our gracious sovereign in the speech from the throne, of lending a commission to America to empower persons on the spot to receive submissions, to remove oppressive restrictions, and to grant pardons and other indulgences to our fellow-citizens across the Atlantic. There is but one step more necessary to be taken, and peace will, in my humble opinion, be certain and infallible; and in relation to that step alone have I ventured to rise on the present occasion. It has already been touched upon by an honourable gentleman (Mr. J. Grenville) who always expresses himself with elegance and propriety. The point I mean, Sir, is, that his majesty's commissioners may be empowered to treat with the congress. I am convinced, Sir, that America will not listen to a treaty through any other medium; it stands to reason and common sense she will not; for the congress is not only the sole existing power at this moment in America, but it is to the union formed by means of the congress that America owes its strength, and its formidable power of resistance; without such an union, twelve wide-spread, far-distant colonies, thinly peopled and individually weak, could never act with effect in defence of what they think their violated rights; nor is it to be supposed they will dissolve this firm bond of union, till their grievances are redressed.

Might I then be permitted very humbly to join my feeble voice to the honourable gentleman's before alluded to, and entreat the ministry that no false pride, no misplaced idea of dignity and authority, may induce them to forbid the commissioner from treating for and seeking peace where alone peace may be found. Let the commissioners be vested with discretionary powers, and left at least without an express prohibition to treat with that body; or let some means be devised of legalizing a congress, by calling one *pro re nata* under his majesty's authority.

The commissioners will, Sir, I hope, be well chosen, will be men of rank and character, men of known attachment to the constitution, and men known and revered for services done to their country; and neither too much attached to Britain nor America, but, if possible, impartial in their opinion concerning the present contest.

When men, such as I have described, giving weight and dignity to the commission they bear, come to treat and to reason with the Americans, much may be urged to quiet their jealousies and apprehensions, and to bring them back to their wonted allegiance to the king, and subordination to this country. They may be told, Sir, and told with truth, that parliament is not so determinedly obstinate on the measure of taxation as they apprehend. They may be reminded that, if parliament taxed them in the year 1764, the same parliament, finding this well meant but injudicious measure offensive to America, repealed the tax in the year 1765. They may be told, that on the memorable occasion of repealing the stamp-act, their great champion, the earl of Chatham, laid the claim of America only to an exemption from internal taxation. They may be also told, that the seven or eight duties afterwards imposed, were not internal taxes, but external port duties on foreign commodities. And yet, in consequence of those external duties being disagreeable to America, they were all

repealed, except this miserable threepenny duty upon tea. And when to those arguments the commissioners can add, that parliament, even on this last article, is disposed to relax, I can hardly doubt of their success, I already see peace and harmony restored! I see the two countries, like two friends who have quarrelled, returning with eagerness to their ancient habits of friendship, and cementing more closely than before, their useful connection and affectionate union! How ardently, Sir, this is my wish, let the trouble I have now ventured to give you this night bear witness, if the uniformity of my conduct for eleven years that this unhappy contest has subsisted, should not be a sufficient testimony of my sincerity.

To the KING's most excellent MAJESTY.

The humble address of the high Sheriff, Gentlemen, Clergy, and Freeholders of the county palatine of Lancaster.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, the high Sheriff, Gentlemen, Clergy, and Freeholders of the county Palatine of Lancaster, humble beg leave to approach the throne with all the sentiments of veneration and attachment due to the father of his people.

Deeply impressed ourselves with a grateful sense of the blessings derived from your majesty's truly paternal government, the spirit of which has been ever directed by the most sacred attention to the happiness and liberty of your people, we cannot, without astonishment and horror, behold a great part of our American fellow-subjects so regardless of these blessings, and ungrateful to the fountain from whence they flow, as to violate, in the most hostile and daring manner, every principal of legal authority and just subordination.

From the whole tenor of your majesty's mild and auspicious reign, as well as the gracious assurances which have proceeded from the throne, we are fully convinced, that nothing on your majesty's part has been wanting to remedy these disorders, by methods consistent with the honour of this country, and the felicity of its several members.

That these deluded people still persist in their rebellious opposition to the constitutional authority of these realms, must be imputed to the unwarrantable and criminal intentions of those who have usurped, the rights of sovereignty amongst them; intentions, which the most vigorous exertions may be required to defeat.

To your majesty, and the only rightful legislative body of these dominions, we cheerfully consider the arduous task of restoring order and tranquillity by every means which brave and loyal subjects can put into your hands; and we implore the divine assistance on your councils and exertions.

For our parts, happy in expressing to your majesty the duty, gratitude, and affection to your royal person and family, which animate this populous, commercial, and manufacturing county, we desire thus publicly to testify our determined resolution to support, (by every assistance in our power) such measures as your majesty and the parliament shall think it necessary to adopt for the suppression of these daring and licentious attacks upon the peace of your majesty's government, the vigour of the laws, and the dignity of the constitution.

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

A letter from his worship the mayor, to the printer.

SIR;

"I enclose I send you a copy of a letter I received from governor Tryon, inclosing an address to the inhabitants of this colony, which address he has desired me to get published, I have therefore sent you a copy of the letter and address, in order for your inserting them in your Gazette, if you think proper.

I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,

D. MATHEWS.

New-York, March 16, 1776.

Ship Duchess of Gordon,

North-River, March 19, 1776.

"SIR;

"I desire you will lay before the gentlemen of the corporation the enclosed exhortation to the inhabitants of this colony, and that you will communicate the same to the public, and also have it inserted in the several Gazettes published in the city of New-York.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

W. TRYON

David Mathew, Esq; Mayor of the city of New-York.

Ship Duchess of Gordon,

North-River, New-York, March 16, 1776.

"To the inhabitants of the colony of New-York.

"Notwithstanding prejudice, delusion, and faction, have hitherto, among too many, usurped the seat of reason and reflection, and every exhortation I have offered to the inhabitants of this province (in whole affection I have been taught to be happy) has been reviled and treated with neglect yet as my wishes for their prosperity, and feelings for their calamities, cannot easily be suppressed even towards the disobedient, I cannot but repeat my endeavours to recal those who have revolted from their allegiance to a sense of their duty, and to comfort those who have been the objects of oppression, for their zealous attachment to our happy constitution, and their ready obedience to the sovereignty of the British empire.

It is in the clemency and authority of Great-Britain

the king to encourage, by every means in my power, the expectations, in his majesty's well disposed subjects in this government of every assistance and protection the state of Great-Britain will enable his majesty to afford them, and to crush every appearance of a disposition on their part to withstand the tyranny and misrule which accompany the acts of those who have but too well hitherto succeeded in the subversion of legal government. Under such assurances, therefore, I exhort all the friends to good order, and our justly admired constitution, still to preserve that constancy of mind, which is inherent in breasts of virtuous and loyal citizens, and I trust a very few months will relieve them from their present oppressed, injured, and insulted condition.

England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, have united to place their whole strength, power, and confidence in his majesty's hands. The numerous addressers from all parts of the king's dominions in Europe, speak the loyalty and zeal with which his subjects there engage to support his majesty in asserting and maintaining the just sovereignty of the British empire over all its members.

The British state moves not by sudden and violent sallies, nor wantonly oppresses; she has lenity for her basins, and is distinguished for moderation and forbearance; but when her just indignation is roused, the experience of other nations can testify her weight and force. It cannot be sufficiently lamented, that the conduct of this country has called for so severe a rod; may a timely and dutiful submission avert its stroke.

I have the satisfaction to inform you that a door is still open to such honest, but deluded people, as will avail themselves of the justice and benevolence, which the supreme legislature has held out to them of being restored to the king's grace and peace, and that proper steps have been taken for passing a commission for that purpose, under the great seal of Great-Britain, in conformity to a provision in a late act of parliament, the commissioners thereby to be appointed, having also power to enquire into the state and condition of the colonies for effecting a restoration of the public tranquillity."

W. M. TRYON.

By an express arrived last night from Cambridge, which place he left the 14th, we learn, that general Howe intended a feint of embarkation, in order to draw off our troops from Dorchester point, who intended to attack his lines, which at the same time were doubly manned. The bait did not take, gen. Washington secured the heights with 7000 men, and a reserve of 5000 were ready at Roxbury, to sustain them in case of need. Our army soon increased to the amount of 30,000 men; every thing conspired to render general Howe's designs fruitless, and he has at length been obliged to turn his feint into a real embarkation. He can no longer stay there, as he is inflated on every side.

The admiral's ship, and a number of the transports had left the harbour, and were in Nantasket road. The rest of the army embarking as fast as possible, and there is no doubt but their destination is for New-York.

General Washington has already detached six regiments for this place, who are already advanced one hundred miles towards it. Two thousand men from Connecticut are coming, thirteen other regiments will soon be here, so that we shall in a few days have an army of at least twenty thousand men, to oppose our enemies, and we have a train of two hundred pieces of cannon ready to salute them.

PHILADELPHIA.

In CONGRESS, Saturday, March 16, 1776.

IN times of impending calamity and distress, when the liberties of America are imminently endangered by the secret machinations and open assaults of an insidious and vindictive administration, it becomes the indispensable duty of these hitherto free and happy colonies, with true penitence of heart, and the most reverent devotion, publicly to acknowledge the over-ruling providence of God; to confess and deplore our offences against him; and to supplicate his interposition for averting the threatened danger, and prospering our strenuous efforts in the cause of FREEDOM, VIRTUE, and POSTERITY.

The congress therefore, considering the warlike preparations of the British ministry to subvert our invaluable rights and privileges, and to reduce us, by fire and sword, by the savages of the wilderness, and by our own domestics, to the most abject and ignominious bondage: Desirous, at the same time, to have people of all ranks and degrees duly impressed with a solemn sense of God's superintending providence, and of their duty devoutly to rely, in all their lawful enterprizes on his aid and direction---do earnestly recommend that Friday the 17th day of May next be observed by the said colonies as a day of HUMILIATION, FASTING, and PRAYER; that we may, with united hearts, confess and bewail our manifold sins and transgressions, and by a sincere repentance and amendment of life appease his righteous displeasure, and through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, obtain his pardon and forgiveness. Humbly imploring his assistance to frustrate the cruel purposes of our unnatural enemies; and by inclining their hearts to justice and benevolence, prevent the further effusion of kindred blood. But if continuing deaf to the voice of reason and humanity, and inflexibly bent on desolation and war, they constrain us to repel their hostile invasions by open resistance, that it may please the Lord of hosts, the God of armies, to animate our officers and soldiers with invincible fortitude, to guard and protect them in the day of battle, and to crown the continental arms by sea and land with victory and success: Earnestly beseeching him to bless our civil rulers and the representatives of the people in their several assemblies and conventions; to preserve and strengthen their union; to inspire them with an ardent disinterested love of their country; to give wisdom and stability to their councils; and direct them to the most efficacious measures for establishing the rights of America on the most honourable and permanent basis---that he would be graciously pleased to bless all the people in these colonies with health and plenty, and grant that a spirit of incorruptible patriotism, and of pure undefiled religion, may universally prevail; and this continent be speedily restored to the blessings of peace and liberty, and enabled to transmit them inviolate to the latest posterity. And

hour on the said day.

By order of congress,

JOHN HANCOCK, president.

Attest. CHARLES THOMSON, secretary.

Extra2 of a letter from Cambridge, March 10.

"We were last night disappointed in an attempt, made to possess ourselves of Nook's Hill; we were too much elated with the advantages lately gained, and I must think imprudently laid out the ground in the open day, and in the face of the enemy. They took the alarm, and as soon as it was dark began a very heavy cannonade, which was kept up on both sides without intermission until sun-rise. As the fire of the enemy was principally directed to the spot we intended to intrench upon, our people were obliged to be drawn off, after losing three or four men.

"As we are so near the town every shot from our batteries must take place, the rumbling of which I could distinctly hear amongst the houses; some of which this morning exhibit the dreadful havoc made by our last night's work. If the enemy remain much longer, I am of opinion we shall leave very little for Mr. Howe to reek his vengeance on in that devoted city.

"There is less appearance this day of their embarkation than has been for some days past. Their sick and wounded, their heavy baggage, and chief part of their heavy artillery is, by every account we get, already on board; so that I believe we shall soon draw nearer to you, as New-York will probably be their destination; if that should be the case, your gallant associates will have an opportunity of shewing their spirit. We are likely to have a warm night of it---if any thing material happens, and I am left in the land of the living, you shall soon hear it."

TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA. LETTER III.

WHEN I sat down to address you, a resolve or vote of our committee of inspection for calling a CONVENTION had alarmed many good friends of the province, on account of our charter-constitution; and therefore I determined freely to examine the right of the committee to convene such a body, the necessity of their being convened, the powers which they might assume, and the confusion such a measure must produce. But in the evening of the same day on which my first letter was published, we were acquainted, "by order and in behalf of the committee," that they had recalled their former vote; and therefore, as the resolution for this recall was probably formed before my publication, I shall claim no merit in it. The public seems willing to ascribe it to motives of prudence, suggested by the general disapprobation of the convention-scheme---the zeal shewn among all ranks of people for the support of our ancient government by assemblies, and the little prospect that any regard would have been paid to the edicts of a body of men, constituted without necessity, even if we could suppose any number of our county committees willing to unite in assuming powers which were never delegated to them.

But those who correspond in behalf of the committee give us other reasons than the above. They tell us, that they have held a conference with several members of assembly, and have, in behalf of this province, told them their duty---that the said members have promised all future attention to the same---but that the committee, watchful for our good, and not willing to trust them too far, still hold the rod over them, and therefore have not annulled their vote, but have only been graciously pleased to forbear, "for the present, the forwarding the letters" [or issuing the writs] for "calling a convention."

This is rather spoken in a lordly style, if it be any thing more than the assuming language of the few who correspond in the name of the committee. But if there be those who think a back door more honourable for a retreat than the front, I would not wound their dignity, nor throw a straw in the way to retard them. It is probable that our assembly may now be permitted to exercise their own judgment, without further attempts to intimidate them in the discharge of the important trust committed to them by the voice of their country; and therefore, as I would avoid contention at all times, and especially at this dangerous crisis, I shall likewise for the present forbear sending to the press every thing which I had prepared in vindication of our injured representatives, except so far as relates to INDEPENDENCY. But that topic I propose, as occasion offers, to handle at some length. For I find the chief resentment levelled against them, appears to be on account of their instructions to their delegates. These, in the eyes of some men, stand as an insurmountable barrier in the way of their destructive purposes, and I trust will continue so to stand till removed by the clear sense of an uncorrupted majority of the good people of this province. Without full proofs of this, the assembly can neither consent to any change of our constitution, or to make the least transfer of our allegiance; and these proofs ought to be more pure than what can flow through the foul pages of interested writers, or strangers intermeddling in our affairs, and avowedly pressing their republican schemes upon us, at the risk of all we hold valuable. Nor would I be willing to receive these proofs from committees, as proposed in the evening post of the 9th instant, by one who signs himself "A Lover of Order," but should be styled an Author of Confusion.

"It would be proper, says he, that the constituents of the congress should declare their sentiments upon that head [INDEPENDENCE] as soon as possible. This may be done by the various committees and conventions on the continent. Their votes and resolves should determine the question in the congress. The first congress was nothing but the ECHO of committees and conventions. In the present important question concerning INDEPENDENCE, the congress should only, as in the former case, ECHO back the sentiments of the people," that is of committees and conventions. And thus we may be ECHOED and RE-ECHOED out of our liberties, our property, our happiness, and plunged deeper and deeper into all the growing horrors of war and bloodshed, without ever being consulted! for I insist upon it, that no committees were ever entrusted with any authority to speak the sense of the people of Pennsylvania on this question. I have already observed by how few voices our largest committee of a hundred

this rate three or four hundred people would take upon them to declare the sense of as many hundred thousands, in a matter of the greatest importance that ever came before us! Can you, my countrymen, acquiesce in such a horrible doctrine? or does not the bare mention of it still further convince you that your liberties can be no where so safe as in the hands of your representatives in assembly? "Those who are not inebriated with independence will certainly allow, that the instructions to their delegates were dictated by the true spirit of peace, justice, and exalted policy. Who so proper to instruct them as those chosen by yourselves, not in the hour of passion, riot and confusion, but in the day of peace and tranquil reflection?" These words I borrow from a pamphlet just published under the title of Plain Truth; which I would recommend to your perusal, as containing many judicious remarks upon the mischievous tenets and palpable absurdities held forth in the pamphlet so falsely called Common Sense.

I have, in my second letter, freely declared my political creed, viz.---"That the true interest of America lies in reconciliation with Great-Britain upon constitutional principles, and that I wish it upon none else." I now proceed to give my reasons for this declaration. It is fit, in so great a question, that you should weigh both sides well, and exercise that good sense for which the inhabitants of these colonies have been hitherto distinguished; and then I shall be under no apprehensions concerning the pernicious, though specious plans, which are every day published in our news papers and pamphlets. The people generally judge right, when the whole truth is plainly laid before them; but through inattention in some, and fondness for novelty in others, when but one side of a proposition is agitated and persevered in, they may gradually deceive themselves, and adopt what cooler reflection and future dear-bought experience may prove to be ruinous.

Agriculture and commerce have hitherto been the happy employments, by which these middle colonies have risen into wealth and importance. By them the face of the country has been changed from a barren wilderness into the hospitable abodes of peace and plenty. Without them, we had either never existed as Americans, or existed only as savages. The oaks would still have possessed their native spots of earth, and never have appeared in the form of ships and houses. What are now well cultivated fields or flourishing cities, would have remained only the solitary haunts of wild beasts, or of men equally wild.

That much of our former felicity was owing to the protection of England is not to be denied; and that we might still derive great advantages from her protection and friendship, is not valued at too high a price, is equally certain; nor is it worth enquiring, whether that protection was afforded us more for her own sake than ours. That the former was the case, more especially since the colonies grew into consequence, I have not the least doubt, but that this is a reason for our rejecting any future connexion with her I must utterly deny. Although I consider her as having, in her late conduct towards us, acted the part of a cruel step-dame, and not of a fostering parent, I would not therefore quarrel with the benefits I may reap from a connexion with her, and can expect to reap no where else. If by her fleets and armies every nation on the globe is deterred from invading our properties, either on the high seas, in foreign countries, or on our own coasts, ought we not in sound policy to profit by her strength, and, without regarding the motives of her conduct, embrace the opportunity of becoming rich and powerful in her friendship, at an expence far less than it would cost us merely to exist in alliance with any other power?

If our present differences can be accommodated, there is scarce a probability that she will ever renew the late fatal system of policy, or attempt to employ force against us. But should she be so insatuated, at any future period, as to think of subjugating us, either by the arts of corruption, or oppressive exertions of power, can we entertain a doubt but that we shall again, with a virtue equal to the present, and with the weapons of defence in our hands (when necessary) convince her that we are willing, by a constitutional connexion with her, to afford and receive reciprocal benefits; but although subjects of the same king, we will not consent to be her slaves. It was on this ground, and not for the purpose of trying new forms of government, "or erecting separate independent states," that America embarked in the present glorious contest. On this ground, and upon none else, the Continental union is formed. On this ground we have a powerful support among the true sons of liberty in Great-Britain; and lastly, upon this ground, we have the utmost assurance of obtaining a full redress of our grievances, and an ample security against any future violation of our just rights. And if hereafter, in the fulness of time, it shall be necessary to separate from the land that gave birth to our ancestors, it will be in a state of perfect manhood, when we can fully wield our own arms, and protect our commerce and coasts by our own fleets, without looking to any nation upon earth for assistance.

This, I say, was our ground, and these our views, universally declared from the origin of this contest, till within a few weeks ago, when some gleams of reconciliation began first to break in upon us. If we now mean to change this ground, and reject all propositions of peace, from that moment we are deserted by every advocate of our cause in Great-Britain. We falsify every declaration which the congress hath heretofore held forth in our behalf. We abandon all prospect of preserving our importance by trade and agriculture, the ancient, sure, and experienced road to wealth and happiness.

In short, if thus contradicting all our former public professions, we should now affect independence as our own act, before it appears clearly to the world to have been forced upon us by the cruel hand of the parent state---We could neither hope for union nor success in the attempt. We must be considered as a faithless people in the sight of all mankind, and could scarcely expect the confidence of any nation upon earth, or look up to heaven for its approving sentence. On the contrary, every convulsion attendant upon revolutions and innovations of government, untimely at empty or finally declared, might be our portion; added to the loss of trade for want of protection; the consequent decay of husbandry; bloodshed and desolation; with an exchange of the early and flourishing condition of farmers and merchants, for a life, at best, of hardy poverty as soldiers or hunters.

the choice of a government, which they can hold no longer than the continuance of the public calamities. But can it be the wish of all that great and valuable body of people in America, who, by honest industry, have acquired a competency, and have experienced a happier life.—Can it be their wish, I say (for such considerations) to have destruction continually before their eyes; and to have enormous debts entailed upon them and their posterity, till at length they have nothing left which they can truly call their own?

I know the answers which will be given to these questions, and am prepared to reply to them, with that temper and gravity which so serious a subject requires. It will be asserted—indeed it has been already asserted—that the animosities between Great Britain and the colonies are now advanced to such a height, that RECONCILIATION is impossible. But assertions are nothing, when opposed to the nature of things, the truth of history, and all past experience. The quarrels of nations, being neither personal or private, cannot stir up mutual hatred among individuals. There never was a war so implacable, even among states naturally rivals and enemies, or among savages themselves, as not to have peace for its object as well as end! And, among people naturally friends, and connected by every dearer tie, who knows not that their quarrels (as those of lovers) are often but a stronger renewal of love?—In such cases, the tide of affection reverting to its course is like that of water long bent back, which, at length burst the opposing mounds, breaks forward through its native channel, and flows with redoubled vigour and increased velocity, to mix itself with its parent main!

It has been further asserted—that we are able, with our land forces, to defend ourselves against the whole world; that if commerce be an advantage, we may command what foreign alliances we please; that the moment we declare ourselves an independent people, there are nations ready to face the British thunder, and become the carriers of our commodities for the sake of enriching themselves; that, if this were not the case, we can soon build navies to force and protect a trade; that a confederacy of the colonies into one great republic is preferable to kingly government, which is the appointment of the devil, or at least reprobated by God; that those denominated wise men, in our own and foreign countries, who have been so lavish of their encomiums upon the English constitution, were but egregious fools; that it is nothing better than a bungling piece of machinery, standing in need of constant checks to regulate and continue its motions; that the nation itself is but one mass of corruption, having at its head a royal brute, a hardened Pharaoh, delighting in blood; that we never can enjoy liberty in connection with such a country; and therefore all the hardships mentioned above, and a thousand times more, if necessary, are to be endured for the preservation of our rights.

If these things had been as fully proved, as they are boldly asserted by the authors of what is called *Common Sense*, I should here drop my pen; and through the short remainder of life, take my chance of whatever miseries Providence may have in reserve for this land, as I know of none else to which I can retire. But as these doctrines contradict every thing which we have hitherto been taught to believe respecting government, I hope you, my dear countrymen, have yet kept one ear open to hear what answer may be given in my future letters.

CATO.

CATO to TIBERIUS, GREETING.

Questions civilly proposed deserve a civil answer, which shall be speedily given to those of *Tiberius*. Urbanity becomes us *ROMANS*; and *Cato* is proud to correspond with one assuming that character, although he is not fond of the imperial name. He has no quarrel with our committee as a public body, and regards many of the members as fit to fill any station to which they may be called by their country. If he cannot support his charges against the individuals who projected the *convention scheme*, he will cheerfully acknowledge his mistake. He never expected to finish these letters without opposition. The question is, whether the liberty and happiness of America can be best secured by a constitutional reconciliation with Great Britain, or by a total separation from it? *Cato* is willing to be judged by his countrymen, when the whole of his arguments shall be submitted to them. Whatever may be intimated before that time he will scarce think worthy of regard; and it was rather unbecoming *Tiberius*, so early in the dispute, to suggest, that “the sentiments (in the letters) may resemble a modern (more than an ancient) *Cato*, who will consent to live a slave, rather than to die free.” The inaccuracy of expression, in making *sentiments resemble men*, may be passed over; for where a person’s meaning can be picked out, in such a contest as this, *Cato* despises a war about words.

N. B. The twelve queries in the evening post are, in substance, the same as the questions of *Tiberius*, and the same answer will serve for both.

WILLIAMSBURG, March 15.

At a committee held for Nansemond county, at the house of John Aspray in Suffolk town, on Wednesday the 22d of November, 1775, present Willis Riddick, chairman, and 11 members.

BETSEY HUNTER being summoned to appear before this committee, for writing certain letters to her mother, and brother (John Hunter, of Norfolk) informing him of the situation of our guards in this county, and that the people were in arms at Norfolk and Smithfield, and that our troops were crossing the river on their march down here, and many other matters of importance, the said Betsey Hunter appeared, and said, that she did not intend them as letters of intelligence, but wrote them for her amusement. The committee, having heard the letters read, are of opinion that they were intended as letters of intelligence, and inimical to the American cause.

Ordered, therefore, That the said Betsey Hunter, with Mary and Martha Wilkinsons (who were privy to and assisting in the said letters, and were also summoned to appear before this committee) be advertised in the public papers, and looked on as enemies to America.

LEMUEL GODWIN, clerk.

Last Saturday an express arrived to the committee of safety, from the general congress, enclosing commissions

preis continued his route to North-Carolina, and we learn carried with him a brigadier-general’s commission for col. James Moore of that province. Private letters by the same express mention, that major-general Lee was appointed commander in chief of the southern department; although letters, since received, say, that he had marched for Quebec, at the head of 8000 men, to reduce that important fortress.

Letters from England, of Dec. 12th, say, that the packets are stopped, and of course all communication between Great-Britain and the colonies cut off; that 5000 troops were to be immediately embarked for Virginia, to be commanded by general Clinton; and, that there was not the smallest prospect of an accommodation.

By letters from North-Carolina, we have the pleasure to communicate the following important intelligence, giving an account of the total defeat of the Scotch Highlanders, Regulators, &c. who had lately become very formidable, and threatened much mischief to the southern colonies, as well as to the glorious cause wherein all America is engaged, in support of her invaded rights, and to oppose ministerial tyranny; so that we may now safely congratulate the public on the utter demolition of the tory interest in that province, which puts a finishing stroke to the farther machinations of master Martin, their wicked and unprincipled governor.

—Col. Moore, with a body of 2000 men, having got within about six miles of the tory army, before they thought we were apprised of their scheme to join governor Martin and the tories, he expected from Boston and England, they, to amuse him, sent a flag of truce, summoning him and his followers to lay down their arms, deliver up their ammunition and stores, and repair to the king’s standard and take the oath of allegiance; and in the mean while, in order to avoid him, they crossed the river, not knowing that col. Caswell was on his way up, on the same side, to join col. Moore, with about 700 men. The colonel, being made acquainted with this manœuvre of the tories, immediately dispatched an express to col. Caswell who made a forced march, and got near five miles a-head of them, taking post between them and the governor, at a bridge over Moore’s creek, where he knew they must pass, or fall in with col. Moore’s main body. Col. Caswell, making use of his advantageous situation, threw up a small intrenchment on the opposite side of the creek, where he determined to wait for col. Moore, then between forty and fifty miles distant, or should the tories incline to attack him, to give them battle, although they were upwards of 2000 strong. In the mean while, however, to decoy them, he made a small breast-work on the other side of the creek, and began to treat with the tories, who had sent in a flag of truce with the like requisition they made to col. Moore, to lay down their arms, &c. in which case they should receive mercy, and be treated with gentleness. Col. Caswell’s reply was, that he and his people were resolved to use their arms in the service of their country, and should not lay them down unless they were compelled to it. During this negotiation, he took care to let the officers, who came with the flag of truce, see his encampment, and the breast-work he had thrown up; and immediately on their departure caused it to be levelled, and crossed to his main post, leaving only a small guard behind, whom he ordered to keep up large fires, as if his whole army was there encamped. He did not fail to leave behind him all the marks of a precipitate retreat, taking up the planks of the bridge for about thirty feet, but suffered the sleepers to remain, that the enemy might have it in their power to come over, though but slowly, and then made dispositions to prevent his army from being discovered by them. Next morning, a good while before day, the whole tory army marched down to attack him, leaving only a small party behind to guard their baggage. Their disposition was a very good one, the main body being supported on each side by a column of flankers; the van led by col. Macleod, second in command, and the rear of the army brought up by brigadier-general Macdonald, both of whom were at the battle of Lexington, and afterwards sent by general Gage, at governor Martin’s request, to head the North-Carolina insurgents. Upon their arrival, finding that col. Caswell had abandoned his camp, they determined to cross the bridge in pursuit of him; but as soon as they got upon it, his advanced guard challenged them, who were answered by Macleod with a discharge of his piece, which a sentinel returned. The enemy then began a heavy firing, although without being able to do the least execution; for col. Caswell lay still, till he thought a sufficient number of them had crossed to play upon with four field pieces, which he caused to be loaded with musket balls, and were so disposed on the intrenchment (in the form of a half-moon) as to rake the bridge on all sides. About 100 of the enemy having crossed the bridge, there ensued a most dreadful carnage, and they never fired a shot after the first discharge from the artillery, but, being seized with a panic, betook themselves to flight, in the most precipitate manner, notwithstanding every exertion of col. Macleod, who fell soon afterwards, and when found had 23 balls and a buck shot in him and through him. It is supposed that scarcely one of those returned who got over the bridge, about 30 being killed on the spot, between 50 and 60 wounded, and the rest fell over the bridge and were drowned, owing to the planks and sleepers being greased, which served to trip up their heels in their tumultuous flight, as was expected and intended. A party of horsemen were sent in pursuit of general Macdonald, who took him; and the Granville and Orange militia, who were likewise ordered to pursue the enemy, took about 400 prisoners, 30 of them officers, whom they delivered to col. Alexander Martin, then on his march from the western parts of the province to join col. Moore with 4000 men. The private men he disarmed, and set at liberty; but the leaders are to be sent to Halifax, where the provincial congress meets the second of April, and it is to be hoped will devise some method to put it out of the power of those tools of despotism, particides to their country, and foes to the liberties of mankind, from pursuing their wicked and diabolical schemes in assisting to enslave America, now the only quarter of the globe where liberty triumphs over oppression; and that she may do so to the latest posterity, ought to be the daily wish, and fervent prayer, of all good men.—Providence, which hitherto has so remarkably interposed in our behalf, was, upon this occasion, equally favourable to our glorious cause; for, during the whole engagement, there was not

brave col. Caswell, who displayed such military skill as would do honour to any commander; and the officers and soldiers who fought under him, although raw and undisciplined troops, appear to have acted like veterans, thereby doing credit to their country, and adding lustre to the American arms, which God grant may always be successful against tyranny, its aiders and abettors.

A letter since come to hand says, that about 40 of the tories were killed, whose army consisted of at least 2500 men, most of whom were taken, with 31 baggage waggons, a quantity of dry goods, &c. also 1200 guns, chiefly rifles, with swords, dirks, and some powder and ball.

BALTIMORE, March 12.

To the public in general and the ladies in particular.

Our repose which we have hitherto enjoyed, in preference to our neighbouring colonies, is at last disturbed; and we are now called forth to our defence. The alacrity with which our brave countrymen assemble, and the determination to fight, visible in every countenance, demonstrate, that if the enemy should be hardy enough to encounter them; we have reason to expect some wounds. The necessity of taking all imaginable care of those who may happen to be wounded, (in the country’s cause) urges us to address our humane ladies, to lend us their kind assistance in furnishing us with linen rags, and old sheeting for bandages, &c. to be delivered either to Dr. Wiellenthal, Dr. Boyd, Dr. Craddock, Dr. Wallace in Annapolis, or any member of the committee.

It is recommended to all the printers in this province to publish the above.

ANNAPOLIS, March 28.

The provincial adjourned court will be further adjourned to Monday before the second Tuesday in April.

We can now, with great pleasure, positively give the public an assurance of the safe arrival of the ship Annapolis, captain Hanrick, in London, some time about the middle of November. The particulars of her voyage we are not yet favoured with, but shall be glad to communicate them when they come to hand, as they do great honour to the captain and his crew, as well as to the unwearied writers, who generously made a present to captain Hanrick of 150 l. sterling, and a handsome valuable medal; to the first mate, Mr. Wallis (since made captain of the Baltimore in the coal trade) 50 l. sterling, and in proportion to the gallant seamen.

In Committee of Correspondence, March 27, 1776.

RESOLVED, That the resolution of November session of convention, 1774, prohibiting BALLS during this time of general distress, be published in the Maryland Gazette, and that the clerk of this committee do transmit a copy of said resolve to the printer.

Signed per order,

RINALDO JOHNSON, clk. pro temp.

In Convention, November 25, 1774.

RESOLVED, That during the present time of public calamity, BALLS be discontinued.

True copy from the proceedings.

RINALDO JOHNSON, clk. pro temp.

The printer is desired to insert the following extract from the Virginia Gazette of February 16, 1776.

At a committee appointed and held for Hanover county, at the court-house, on Thursday the 25th of January, 1776.

BENNET WHITE appeared before the committee, agreeable to a summons, to answer sundry charges lodged against him, which are as follow: “That he had been guilty of having a subscription ball; that he assured his subscribers, that if the committee should notice it, he would take the whole blame on himself; and that he had allowed gaming in his house.” Which charges being examined into, were sufficiently proved; but the said Bennet White declaring his uneasiness for having done any thing that had caused the displeasure of the committee, begged that they would pass it over, as the first offence, and that he would pay the strictest regard to the association in future, as well as demean himself, in every respect, a firm friend to the rights of America. These concessions being deemed satisfactory, Mr. White was discharged from farther prosecution.

Extract from the proceedings.

WILLIAM BENTLEY, clerk.

Annapolis, March 26, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, an indentured servant lad, named Edward Burford, born in Hampshire, about five feet two inches high, fair complexion and brown hair: had with him two cloth coats, one a London brown, the other of coarse light coloured cloth with waistcoat of the same, much worn, good buckskin breeches, ribb’d worsted stockings and English made shoes. He is very fond of liquor, and can give no better reason for his elopement, than that he often merited chastisement and never received it. Should he be taken ten miles from home I will give 20 shillings reward on his return.

J. CLAPHAM.

March 20, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, an Irish indentured servant man, named Philip McDonald, a barber by trade, about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high: had on when he went away, a brown coat, has black frizzled hair which he ties behind, is much marked with the small-pox, and is given to liquor. Whoever takes up said servant, so that I get him again, shall receive, if taken 10 miles from home, 20 shillings; if 30 miles 40 shillings; and if out of the province 3 pounds, besides what the law allows.

JUSTUS SHEBERT.

DESERTED from capt. Scott’s company of regulars a spare fellow, about 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, named John Ashton, and appears to be about 22 years of age. Whoever will bring the above soldier to capt. Scott, or any officer of the said company, shall receive the sum of three pounds.

March 21, 1776.

WHEREAS the records of the commissary's office are removed to Upper Marlborough, by the direction of the Council of Safety for the province of Maryland, I am directed to give this public notice, that the common business of that office will from henceforth be transacted at that place.

And as the commissary's courts are by law appointed to be held at the city of Annapolis, where the same must indispensably be continued, the commissary general, anxious to relieve as far as in his power the difficulties arising to the people, from the removal of the records to such distance from the capital, hath resolved to attend at both places in every court week, which will be on the second Tuesdays of May, July, September, and November; and to that end, will hold his courts every second Tuesday in said months at the city of Annapolis, for the convenience of the inhabitants of the Eastern shore, and others whom it may best suit. And he will from thence proceed on the Thursday to Upper Marlborough, there to sit during the remainder of the week for the dispatch of public business.

I also give notice, that for the greater ease and convenience of the inhabitants of Anne-Arundel county, who may have business with me as deputy commissary of that county, I shall give attendance every Tuesday at the house of Mr. Cornelius Garretson in the city of Annapolis for that purpose.

if **2** ELIE VALLETTE, register.

March 19, 1776.

To be opened at South-river, on Thursday the 21st instant, by the subscriber heretofore,
THE LATIN SCHOOL, where any gentlemen that are pleased to send their children, may expect to have the greatest justice done them.

w3 **2** EUGENE FERRIS.

N. B. Any gentlemen that want to board their children, will meet with the best accommodations at Mr. Gerard Hopkins, jun. Mr. John Cowman, Mr. Henry Hall, and Mr. David Evans.

March 15, 1776.

THIS is to give notice to all persons concerned, that I intend to appraise the estate of Mr. James Macubbin, deceased, at his late dwelling plantation in Anne-Arundel county, on Tuesday the 16th day of April next.

3w **2** WILLIAM WOODWARD, admr.

Mess. Joseph Warfield and John Marriott appointed appraisers by the commissary.

Wanted immediately, delivered at the contractor's store in Annapolis,

A QUANTITY of potatoes, parsneps, carrots, beans, cockshoe beans, or any kind of Indian peas, for which will be given the highest prices, by

ISAAC M'HARD,

for Mr. ROBERT CUMMINS

March 5, 1776.

To be sold by the subscribers,
A FEW barrels and half barrels of strong and small beer, brewed by Mr. Isaac Perkins, in Kent county. This beer is allowed to be the best made in this province.

3w **4X** THO. C. WILLIAMS and co.

THREE POUNDS REWARD.

Baltimore, March 11, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, on Saturday night last, an English indentured servant man, named John Gibbs, by trade a breeches-maker and leather-dresser, about 28 years of age, 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, able bodied and well made, pretty full ruddy face, speaks thick, short black hair inclined to curl, and is fond of liquor; had on a brown coarse short cloth coat with broad white metal buttons, a blue jacket with a brown piece in the back, a naphrig or fine white shirt, buckskin breeches, blue stockings, and a pair of pumps with a piece of buckskin on the side of one of them. As he has been some time in the army, and on ship-board in the British service, it is believed he intends to get on board the enemy's vessels. Whoever secures him, so that his maker may get him again, shall receive the above reward, if out of the province and brought home five pounds reward, from

2X RICHARD LEMMON.

TO BE SOLD,

A VALUABLE tract of land, containing 280 acres more or less, situated upon Rock creek in Frederick county, within four miles of George town and eight of Bladensburg, 150 acres whereof are in wood, and the remainder inclosed by a good fence; there are about ten acres of the aforesaid land may be made good meadow with little trouble. I have likewise for sale 25 acres of land near or adjoining the town of Upper Marlborough, in Prince George's county, with good improvements thereon, and a valuable mill in good repair, and grinds all seasons. For terms apply to Robert Whitaker near the aforesaid town, or William Belt in Frederick county.

Maryland, Somerset county, Feb. 15, 1776.
THE visitors of Eden school, in the county aforesaid, hereby give notice, that they want a master for said school. Any person inclinable to undertake, that is properly qualified, and can come well recommended, is desired to apply as soon as possible. The master's salary in said school is one hundred and thirty pounds per annum, with diet, washing and lodging found.

Signed by request of the Visitors,

w6 **4** HENRY LOWES.

Head of Severn, about a mile from Severn chapel.

February 23, 1776.

THE subscriber being appointed deputy clerk of Anne-Arundel county, hereby gives notice, that the records of said county are removed to his house, by order of the council of safety, where attendance will be given, every Monday, for recording deeds, searching and giving copies.

REZIN GAITHER.

Attendance will be given every Wednesday and Friday, in Annapolis, for issuing the several processes of the court, by

5X JOHN BRICE.

FORTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Frederick county, Maryland, Halling's river,

February 14, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, last night, two Irish servant men, both weavers by trade, viz. Christopher Warren, about five feet four inches high; had on, when he went away, a short pale blue coat, which has been turned, and is double breasted, with black horn buttons, and a pair of brown cloth trousers; he has short curled black hair, a very long nose which appears to lean to one side of his face, dark eyes, and a few blue spots in his face, which appear to be specks of gunpowder; he is about thirty-five years of age. George Murdy, about twenty years of age, five feet eight inches high, fair complexion, gray eyes; straight black hair; had on, when he went away, two striped country cloth jackets, one pair of striped country cloth breeches. They took with them two horses, two saddles, and two bridles; one a roan horse with a black mane and tail, trots and gallops, branded on the near shoulder L F, about fourteen hands high, and goes dull on the road; the other a small bay horse about fourteen hands high, branded on the near shoulder O, paces and gallops, and shod before. Whoever takes up the said servants and horses, and secures them, so that the owner may get them again, shall receive the above reward, paid by

4 GEORGE SNELL.

N. B. It is probable they may have other cloaths with them, or get their own changed.

Annapolis, February 20, 1776.

To be sold at public vendue, by the subscriber, on the second Tuesday in April next (on the premises) by virtue of a power of attorney from Mr. John Rols Key, eldest son and heir at law of Francis Key, late of Cecil county, Esq; deceased,

A VALUABLE plantation, containing about three hundred acres, being part of a tract of land called and known by the name of Anne Catharine Neck, or Carpenter's Point, situate, lying and being in Cecil county aforesaid, at the head of Chesapeake Bay, near the mouth of North-East river, and about three miles from Charles Town. There is on the said plantation, an exceeding fine fishery, part of which at present rents for near one hundred pounds per annum.

Also to be sold at public vendue, the houses and lots in Charles Town, formerly the property of the said Francis Key, the day after the sale of the abovementioned plantation.

6X JAMES BROOKS.

Patuxent Iron Works, February 6, 1776.

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

if **7** SAMUEL and JOHN SNOWDEN.

February 15, 1775.

S L I M.

To be let to mares the ensuing season, at Sandgate farm, close by Mr. Stuart's rope-walk, and within a mile of Annapolis,

THE high bred English horse, S L I M, full fifteen hands high, rising seven years old. Slim is of a beautiful dark chestnut colour, was got by Wildman's Babram, his dam by Rogers's Babram, his grandam by Sedbury out of lord Portmore's Ebony; is well suited to breed for either the saddle or turf, being remarkably light, and quick in his movements, free from any blemish or incumbrance of gum, and is imagined equal to any horse on the continent, four mile heats at nine stone. He will be let at six dollars, for the season, and half a crown to the groom, and as at so low a rate the cash will be expected before the horse is led out. Good pasture for mares to be had at half a crown a week, or at half a dollar, with proper feeding.

Annapolis, August 23, 1775.

WANTED immediately, a number of hands who are acquainted in the different branches of the manufacture of fire arms—good wages and encouragement will be given to such as have been used to work in any branch, according to their proficiency and industry, either by the piece or time.—As good locksmiths, or other neat filers, will be soon handy in making several parts of gun locks, to such also I will give good encouragement.—There are many servants about the country who would be very useful in the necessary business I am now engaging in; I should be glad to be informed of such, and wish to hire them, or purchase their times of service of their masters.

32X ISAAC HARRIS.

N. B. I want to hire a good file-cutler.

WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, AND SILVERSMITH.

Opposite Mrs. Johnston's tavern, ANNAPOLIS.
B and his friends in particular, that he will continue to carry on the aforesaid trades in all their various branches, and at the most reasonable rates; also that he cleans and repairs all sorts of fire-arms, small sword, hangers, and cutlaffs. He also makes hooks for swords in the neatest and most approved manner. N. B. He has several grots of hoot an daves to dispose of cheap.

SIX POUNDS REWARD.

STOLEN away from the subscriber, on Tuesday night the 10th instant, a dark bay or brown horse, 10 or 11 years old last spring, upwards of 15 hands high, his hind feet white, and has a few gray hairs in his forehead, paces, trots and gallops, and when rode goes with pretty good spirits, has a hanging main, little foretop, yellow nose, and short back; his tail when trimmed, which was very lately, was intended for a switch, but by the unskillfulness of the person who did it, it was made almost as short as a long bob, the hoofs of his fore-feet were broken on the inside, and he had on a pair of shoes about half worn, but if he has been much rode, it is very probable that one or both may be off by this time. Whoever takes up both thief and horse, so that the thief be convicted, and the horse delivered to me at the Patuxent iron-works, shall receive the above reward, or 20 shillings for the horse only, but if the horse should be a great distance, reasonable charges will be allowed if brought home, paid by

10X JAMES RAWLINGS.

Prince George's county, May 24, 1775.

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons indebted to the subscriber, either by bond, note, or open account, to immediately come and settle their respective debts, as I am determined to give no longer indulgences.—I hope this requisition will be adverted to, otherwise I shall take compulsory methods to enforce payment, without any respect to persons.

39X JOSEPH DUVAL.

TEN POUNDS REWARD.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in Kent county, Maryland, the 8th of this instant, two Irish indentured servants, each of which has about three years to serve, viz.

FRANCIS MANIS, about thirty years of age, a very stout well made fellow, about five feet 10 inches high, very full faced, short dark hair, had on, when he took with him, a good brown broad cloth coat, black velvet jacket and breeches, and a pair of black everlasting breeches, with yellow metal buttons, an old blue coat with new large sleeves, shirts, shoes and stockings; his calling a ditcher or brickmaker.

JOHN DELANY, about 26 years of age, five feet eight inches high, well made, fair skin, studdy complexion, short brown hair; had on and took with him, a green jacket made sailor fashion, a purple under jacket, a white shirt, one or two check shirts, much worn, a new felt hat, a black silk handkerchief round his neck, a pair of white kersey breeches, and a pair of blue serge breeches, one pair of Scotch kilminrock, and one pair of Kendall ribbed hose mixed black and white, a pair of half worn shoes, and square steel buckles, he writes a good hand; and they have both been in different parts of Pennsylvania. Whoever takes up the aforesaid servants, and secures them so that the subscriber may have them again, shall receive ten pounds reward, if taken out of the province, if in the province, six pounds, or half the above reward for either, by

4X RICHARD GRAVEL.

Baltimore county, Patapsco Neck, April 3, 1775.

TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.

For apprehending a Runaway.

JAMES, a mulatto slave, sometimes known by the name of Vulcan, but commonly answers to the name of Buck, took on abrupt leave of his owner last Wednesday, and has not yet returned; he is a dark mulatto, about 5 feet 9 inches high, strong made, sensible, artful, and deceptive in conversation, firm and daring in his efforts to perpetrate villainy, tho' of mild temper, and plausible in speech; he has frequently travelled through a considerable part of this and some part of the province of Pennsylvania; is well known, it is supposed, in the borough and county of Lancaster, and is acquainted with Philadelphia; may probably therefore re-visit those places. His working cloaths were a home manufactured long cloth waistcoat with sleeves, and breeches, yara stockings, a naphrig shirt, and good shoes, nailed with hobnails; he is possessed of and has taken with him a blue German serge coat, a green broad cloth vest, two pair of cotton and one pair of thread stockings, two white shirts, ruffled at the breast, a good castor hat with band and buckle, a pair of good pumps, with a pair of double rimmed silver buckles. He has a mark of distinction, which from modesty, or some other motive, he is careful to conceal; one of his ears (but which is forgot) remarkably less than the other. The above reward will be paid if he should be taken up out of the province, or 60 miles from Baltimore town in the province, and brought home; five pounds if at the distance of 40 miles, three pounds if 30, and forty shillings if 20 miles, with reasonable travelling expences, including the legal charge under the act of assembly, by

40X THOMAS JONES.

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

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

CONVENTION

OF THE

PROVINCE OF MARYLAND,

Held at the City of Annapolis, on Thursday the 7th of December, 1775.