

NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1778.

THOUGHTS ON THE SITUATION OF AFFAIRS.

AT the opening of the last year, the American cause wore a sickly aspect. The Continental army, reduced to an inconsiderable body, retired as fast as the enemy advanced; and a vast tract of country, from Hudson's river to the Delaware, lay exposed to the ravages of an insulting foe. Roused at length from the lethargy which at first seemed to seize them, the militia, poured in to the assistance of General Washington, and gave his little army an appearance of numbers. The fortunate surprisal of the Hessians which soon followed, and the brilliant manœuvre at Princeton, first checked the current of misfortune, and gave the tide of affairs a contrary direction. General Howe, confining himself to the narrow limits of Brunswick and Amboy, suffered us to invest him with a handful of militia. The States wisely improved the breathing spell which Heaven lent them; and such were the exertions of the winter, that, before the British army took the field, we had a respectable force on foot—A force, part of which, assisted by the gallant militia of New-York and New-England, hath destroyed their Northern army; while the residuum, tho' unable to stop the progress of General Howe, hath nevertheless fought him bravely, and even now limits his conquests to "just so much territory as he can command with the mouths of his cannon." It is true they are in possession of the first city on the Continent—the loss is deeply felt by the unhappy citizens—but America disdains to say she suffers by the event.

Thus the new year opens favourably upon us, but what its future complexion will be, depends upon the manner in which we employ the present winter. Heaven hath indeed smiled upon us—but some drops of bitterness hath been kindly mingled in the cup of joy, lest the draught should intoxicate and lull us to sleep. Our successes encourage the most sanguine hopes; our losses forbid the least presumption. The power of the enemy, and the resources of Britain, are not to be despised; and if prosperity betrays us into security—if we think the work is done, and become remiss in our exertions, our successes have only smoothed the way to destruction, and the laurels which entwine our brows serve but as ornaments to deck us for the sacrifice.

Hitherto the regular force which we have kept on foot hath been no ways proportionate to the strength of the States, or the importance of the object it was raised to secure. It would have been useless to have had more men in the field than we could supply with arms, ammunition, and other military stores—Hence our operations against the enemy's main army have been feeble and indecisive; and the General, checking the impulses of his own gallant and enterprising spirit, has been obliged to consult the safety of America by protraction and delay.—But, through the blessings of Heaven, we can now arm thousands with muskets of the best kind and of one caliber—we have artillery, ammunition, and camp equipage in abundance—and we can feed and pay our troops without difficulty. The period is therefore arrived when, by arming our beloved General with the united force of the States, we shall enable him to take the field with a superiority of strength, and which will ensure him all those advantages (and they are neither few nor small) which assailants ever have over those who act on the defensive.

This however can only be done by immediately filling up the Continental regiments. But as the practice of militia substitution hath universally ruined the recruiting service, it will be necessary to draft the number required, who should serve either personally or by substitutes, for one campaign at least. But as this is a measure which, should it be adopted, may give umbrage to some who never look beyond themselves, and raise a clamour among others who wish to impede every vigorous exertion, let us consider the propriety and advantage of it.—

It is a maxim in government which I never heard a man of sense deny, that every state hath a right to demand the personal service of its members or an equivalent, whenever the public weal demands it. This is a duty which should be exacted in the manner least oppressive to the people, and which we have long rendered, without murmuring, in the different

modes prescribed by the militia laws of the respective States. To serve under officers nominated by ourselves, is most conformable to the genius of a free people; but if this mode becomes improper or inadequate to the exigency of affairs, the state hath undoubtedly a right to adopt another which tho' less agreeable will prove more salutary. The practice of reinforcing the Continental army by calling out the militia, will in common cases be of little service. When the yeomanry of a country, roused by a sense of danger, or fired by indignation at their wrongs, fly to arms; then indeed their resolution is dreadful to an enemy, and their impetuosity almost irresistible.—But when the state of our country is such as awakes no agitation of mind, the militia dragged unwillingly to the field soon become disgusted with their duty, and are impatient to retire.—A great part of these will be substitutes, who while in the militia will always prove sorry soldiers. While they can shrink from danger with the prospect of impunity, the temptation will be too powerful for men of their feelings to resist.—They know that if they can keep out of harm's way for a few months, they will be at liberty to retire or to renew their bargain.—They know, that if called to answer for their conduct, they will be tried by laws milder than mercy, and by men who judge with a gentleness incompatible with the welfare of an army. But let one of these be drafted into the regular army, or become a substitute for one who is so, and he will presently equal the Continental veteran.—Subject to stricter discipline, amenable to a severer tribunal, he catches the spirit of a soldier and courts danger with the foremost of his comrades.

Besides, as the militia officers have not devoted themselves to a military life, they will find a lengthy service inconvenient and disagreeable; nor can they be supposed to be acquainted with the minutiae of camp duty, which cannot be dispensed with in conducting the slow and steady operations of a regular army. But we have already in pay a number of excellent officers, formed by serving thro' an active campaign; and it is a pity that their spirit and military knowledge should become useless, for want of men to command.

But whatever mode the States devise for raising men, it is of the highest importance that it be speedily adopted and vigorously pursued. The present winter is worth millions to America; and if the idles it away, her folly will be without a parallel. We have every argument that can work upon our hopes and fears, to excite us to the most strenuous exertions. Peace, liberty and safety, lie before us as the reward of our exertions—Infamy, distress, and all that we have felt or feared from the tyranny of Britain, may be the consequence of supineness and inaction. The main army of the enemy is in our country, and still formidable—Britain, enraged at the loss of her Northern army, will exert her utmost power, and having no troops in Canada to reinforce, will direct her undivided strength against the middle States. We too, thank Heaven, can meet them with an undivided army; but we must increase its numbers to ensure its success. Let us then, my countrymen, make one general and mighty effort; and if we can but rouse the unwieldy strength of these States, and bring their united force against the enemy, the contest will at once be over, and the footsteps of tyranny shall never mark this land of freedom more.

A D O L P H U S.

Pennsylvania, Jan. 8, 1778.

For the NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

To his MAJESTY of GREAT-BRITAIN.

DE L U E D Prince! how wretchedly art thou mistaken in thy idea of true grandeur? That Prince is truly great who draws his sword with reluctance, and sheaths it with pleasure—Who draws it against the enemies of liberty, and the oppressors of human kind—Who builds on his empire, what in real value transcends all empire, virtue, patriotism, philanthropy, and the happiness of millions; and thus makes his throne a scaffold to the skies. But what are thy notions of glory, who art waging war unprovoked and beyond example sanguinary? War against those it was thy duty, thy bounden thy sworn duty, to protect; and for complaining that thou didst not protect them? War against liberty, and against men for defending liberty?

Tutored by preceptors of arbitrary principles, and but too prompt a scholar under such tutorage, thou wast early intoxicated with the love of despotic sway. Prerogative over-rating, undervaluing law, and mistaking the true glory of a British monarch, and of all monarchs—the power of doing good; you placed it in power boundless and unlimited. To secure to yourself this delusive phantom, you eagerly adopted a plan (a plan of murder and havoc, desolation and tyranny) invented by hell, matured by a Scotch faction, and now executing by hell's prime agents, thy bloody mercenary ministers of vengeance. A plan for depriving, by fire and sword and plunder and torture, of liberty and property, habitation and life, a people who never gave thee cause of offence, but loved thee for thy grandfather's sake; and would have loved thee for thine own sake, hadst thou not compelled them, by a reversed ambition, to turn their love into hatred, and defend themselves by open force against the bloody schemes of a raging tyrant, whom neither reason could convince, justice reclaim, nor supplication mollify.

H O R T E N T I U S.

From the CONNECTICUT COURANT.

A L O O K I N G - G L A S S.

WH E N the liberties of America were first invaded by the tyrant of Britain, all considered themselves jointly interested, and their united efforts requisite to repel the invasion; and no one then even dreamt, that our struggles against the common oppressor would involve us in mutual oppressions of each other, of the most pernicious and heinous nature.

Oppression consists in taking the advantage of the necessity of others to extort from them an unreasonable price for the necessaries of life; and is an offence against the laws of reason and morality, and is inconsistent with the righteous and beneficent rules of christianity, and resembles the infernals whose character is to devour one another.

Every one who is guilty of this vice and lives in the practice of it, forfeits his character of a reasonable being, a man, and a christian, and is fit for nothing but to be joined to the society of devils.

The faith of the Continent is engaged to redeem every shilling of the continental bills, after a certain period, at the rate of one dollar for every six shillings—and much of the money now circulating was purchased or contracted for when wheat was four shillings per bushel, and other commodities in proportion—every six shillings of continental money, therefore, is in the hands of the possessor, equal in value to a dollar, or it is worth nothing, for there is no medium; if the former, then to exact more of it for an article than of silver, is extortion, and no better than specious robbery. If the latter, then to pass it for more than the value of the paper on which it is impressed, is an imposition and fraud: But that which by common consent has a certain value stamped upon it, ought not, nor can be altered without the same authority that gave the sanction. The consequence is, that the continental bills must be considered as equivalent to dollars, and pass as such; or be rejected as the grossest cheat.

But it may be objected, that the credit of these bills will vary with the probability of the success of our arms. This objection might fairly enough be made by a foreigner, but comes with an ill grace from ourselves, who by common consent have put a certain value upon them. But further, America will maintain its independency and be able to redeem these bills, or it will not.—If the former, then every six shillings entitles the possessor to a dollar or an equivalent. If the latter, our estates may as well be in continental bills as any thing else; for the whole will be considered as forfeited, and taken from us by the conquerors. I appeal to every one, and call upon all, to reconcile, if they can, the present enhanced prices of articles, with the rules of common honesty. Let the merchant take into his computation, the freight, risque, insurance, and every other extraordinary charge on trade, and to it add his profits, fifty or a hundred per cent, and he can't make out one half the price the articles are usually sold for. Let the farmer take into his computation, what? scarcity, no? Providence has been bountiful, and crowned his labours, with plentifulness.—Labour,

[For the Remainder see the last Page.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, Sept. 5.

THE Ottoman court hath just granted to Russia the free navigation of the Black Sea for small merchant ships only.

We are informed that the principal part of the dispute now subsisting between the Porte and Russia is, that his Highness having been informed that the court of Petersburg is sending 40,000 men into Crimea, he absolutely insists, that within sixty days at farthest, a categorical answer be given him relative to the motive for sending these troops.

MARSEILLES, (in France) Aug. 15.

Letters from Bourdeaux advise, that orders were arrived there to fit out some ships on the King's account. It is said, that thirty will be required from Bourdeaux and Nantz to transport to our Colonies the regiments that are already on their march to these ports. It is even assured, that a regiment of cavalry is to embark with their horses. The Ministry have wrote that the King would pay three months extra in case the embarkation should not take place at the time that has been fixed for it.

CADIZ, (in Spain) Aug. 19.

By the Juno frigate, just arrived from Manilla, we have advice of the death of Don Simon de Andary Salazar, knight of the royal order of Charles III, member of the royal council and chamber of Castile, and Governor, Captain General and President of the Audience of the Philippine Isles, aged sixty-seven years. He died October 30, 1776. He acquired the approbation of his Sovereign by the manner in which he acquitted himself in his high office, and particularly for the defence which he made when the Philippines were attacked by the English in 1762.

LONDON, May 29.

Though the majority, reasoning of the framers of the late act for the suspension of the Habeas Corpus, and the coarse abettors of that act without doors, have succeeded in regard to its being established by law, the following quotation from Mr. Burke's excellent letter to the Sheriffs of Bristol will best shew the justice of it:

War (says this great legislative and eloquent reasoner) is at present carried on between the King's natural and foreign troops on one side, and the English in America on the other, upon the usual footing of other wars, and accordingly an exchange of prisoners has been regularly made from the beginning. If, notwithstanding this hitherto equal procedure, upon some prospect of ending the war with success, (which however may be delusive) administration prepares to act against those as traitors who remain in their hands at the end of the troubles, in my opinion, we shall exhibit to the world as indecent a piece of injustice as ever civil fury has produced.

If the prisoners who have been exchanged, have not by that exchange been virtually pardoned, the cartel (whether avowed or understood) is a cruel fraud; for you have received the life of a man, and you ought to return a life for it, or there is no parity or fairness in the transaction.

If, on the other hand, we admit that they who are actually exchanged are pardoned, but contend that we may justly reserve for vengeance those who remain unexchanged, then this unpleasant and unhandsome consequence will follow, that you judge of the delinquency of men merely by the time of their guilt, and not by the heinousness of it; and you make fortune and accidents, and not the moral qualities of human action, the rule of your justice."

Aug. 18. Lord Stormont in a late memorial to the Court of France, gave in a list of French officers and engineers in the army of General Washington, &c. in North-America, which Lord George Germaine had delivered to Lord Weymouth for that purpose; the total number is 746. Above 40 engineers were at Ticonderoga. The French ministers of the war department assured the King of France, upon the matter being laid before him, that they were all absent on their travels, and not to their knowledge in America,---which was all the answer Lord Stormont could get.

Oct. 2. Those, says a correspondent, who suppose Dr. Franklin came to Paris in the 75th year of his age, to make experiments in natural philosophy, must certainly be a great many years older than the Doctor. They must be even in their dotage; and those, adds he, who imagine that the French will deliver him up to Lord Stormont, may as well believe that Lord Stormont will be appointed wet nurse to Her Most Christian Majesty.

Oct. 7. The Hawke, Gribble, a letter of marque, has taken the Juno, an American vessel, laden with rice, indigo, &c. valued at five thousand pounds, and sent her safe into Sandwich.

Oct. 16. Advice is received, that a man of war of 74 guns, and three light frigates, are sailed from Brest for the coast of Africa, where some important enterprizes are carrying on by the French.

Oct. 30. Last night policies were opened at the Exchange, fifty guineas to return one hundred, in case Gen. Washington's army was defeated the 20th inst.

Nov. 8. In consequence of a publication in the news papers a few weeks since, of a spurious letter from Dr. Franklin and Mr. Deane to Lord Stormont, relating to an exchange of prisoners, the following papers have been received:

To the Right Honourable Lord Stormont.

My Lord, Paris, Feb. 23.

Captain Weeks, of the Reprisal Frigate, belonging to the United States of America, has now in his hands near 200 British seamen, prisoners. He desires to know, whether an exchange may be made with him for an equal number of American seamen now prisoners in England? We take the liberty of proposing this matter to your Lordship, and of requesting your opinion (if there be no impropriety in your giving it) whether such an exchange will probably be agreed to by your court?

If your people cannot soon be exchanged here, they will be sent to America. We have the honour to be, with great respect, your Lordship's most obedient humble servants,

B. FRANKLIN, S. DEANE."

To Lord Stormont.

My Lord, Paris, April 3.

In answer to a letter which concerns some of the most material interests of humanity, and of the two nations, Great-Britain and the United States of America, now at war, we received the inclosed indecent paper, as coming from your Lordship, which we return, for your Lordship's more mature consideration.

B. FRANKLIN, S. DEANE."

N. B. The words of the paper sent by Lord Stormont, and referred to in the above letter, were, "The King's Ambassador receives no applications from rebels, unless they come to implore His Majesty's mercy."

CHARLES-TOWN, (S. Carolina) Oct. 7.

By a vessel from Cadiz, arrived here last Wednesday, in 48 days, we find that American vessels have all possible encouragement to go thither: That General O'Reily is very friendly to the United States: That they had 15,000 troops in readiness for embarkation.

BOSTON, December 11.

On Friday last a select company of sons of freedom, made a very elegant entertainment at the Bunch of Grapes in Congress-street, for the Hon. Brigadier General STARKS, who was then in town, in testimony of the great and important services rendered by that brave and intrepid officer to the United States of America; after which a number of patriotick toasts were drank, and rockets, &c. exhibited from the balcony.

The following letter to the Hon. Brigadier-General STARKS, and resolve, passed the General Assembly of this State on Friday last:

S. I. R,

The General Assembly of this State take the earliest opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of your acceptable presents---The tokens of victory gained at the memorable battle of Bennington.

The events of that day strongly mark the bravery of the men, who, unskilled in war, forced from their intrenchments, a chosen number of veteran troops of boasted Britons; as well as the address and valour of the General, who directed their movements and led them on to conquest.

This signal exploit opened the way to a rapid succession of advantages most important to America.

These trophies shall be safely deposited in the archives of the State, and there remind posterity of the irresistible power of the God of armies, and the honours due to the memory of the brave.

Still attended with like successes, may you long enjoy the just reward of your grateful country.

RESOLVED unanimously, That the Board of War of this State be, and hereby are directed, in the name of this court, to present to the Honourable Brigadier-General STARKS, a complete suit of clothes, becoming his rank, together with a piece of linen; as a testimony of the high sense this court have of the great and important services rendered by that brave officer to the United States of America.

Dec. 19. At the late meeting of the inhabitants of this town, was voted, that the thanks of the town be given to the Hon. JOHN HANCOCK, Esq. for his generous donation of 150 cords of wood to the poor of the town in this time of distress.

Friday last a prize ship, mounting 12 double fortified 4 and 6 pounders, commanded by Capt. Townsend, with 35 hands, laden with coals and provisions, bound from Liverpool for New-York, arrived safe in port; she was taken by the General Washington privateer of this port, commanded by Captain Rogers. Two days before Captain Rogers came across the above ship, she had a smart engagement with a small privateer, which she beat off. Captain Townsend in the engagement lost one of his legs, and one or two toes of the other foot, but is like to do well. He informs that he so disabled the privateer, that he thinks she could never reach any port.

Extract of a letter from an officer of distinction in the Continental army to the southward.

"I shall make no apology for troubling you on this occasion; the pleasure you will receive on being informed, that many officers and soldiers of our army, now prisoners in Philadelphia, acknowledge their obligations to Dr. Morgan for their lives, by his attention to their wounds, will fully compensate for the trouble I give you.

Dr. Morgan, I hear, is a prisoner in Philadelphia, on parole; and, as I am informed, asked and obtained permission from Gen. Lord Cornwallis, to attend on the American sick and wounded prisoners there, which he does gratuitously."

Jan. 1. The owners of the privateer Civil Usage, of Newbury Port, having made a present to the Hon. JOHN HANCOCK, Esq. of an elegant coach, which was lately taken in one of their prizes; as a token of their respect for that gentleman, who has so nobly distinguished himself in the present contest with Great-Britain, as the friend of his country.

Thursday last the brig Favourite of 14 guns, Capt. Lamb, belonging to Connecticut, arrived safe in port, after 24 days passage from Martinico, with 17 four pound brass cannon, and a great quantity of round shot suitable for the same, about a thousand stand of arms, and 14 tons of powder. By this vessel we have an account, that about a fortnight before she sailed, 10,000 troops arrived there from France, 5000 of which were destined for Hispaniola.

HARTFORD, December 16.

We have direct intelligence from New-York, that Col. Livingston, who was taken at Fort Montgomery, another Colonel, and Major Stewart of Maryland, have made their escape from on board a prison ship at New-York.

Extract of letter from a Gentleman in France, to his friend in Wethersfield, dated October 2.

"We just have letters from England, informing of the capture of the Lexington brig of 14 guns, commanded by Capt. Johnston of Boston; this brave man and all his officers, except one, were killed:---The brig fought five hours.

"Prodigious quantities of cloathing for the American army have been, and will be sent out, which will be amply sufficient for them. We have frequently people applying for assistance from the gaols in England for the unhappy American prisoners, several of whom have at times escaped, and have been and are sending from hence for America, and are all provided for as fast as they come here."

NEW-HAVEN, December 31.

Samuel Chew, Esq. in the Continental brig Resistance, has sent into the port of Boston, a ship from Scotland, bound to the West-Indies, which he took to windward of Barbados.---She mounted ten carriage guns; and her cargo, consisting of dry goods, is said to be invoiced at between 5 and 6,000l. sterling.

Monday night fifteen sail of vessels, ships, snows, brigs and schooners, came too a few miles to the westward of this harbour, and yesterday morning they came to sail. They are from New-York, and supposed to be bound to New-port, probably with troops.

WORCESTER, December 25.

We are well assured that Lord Howe, the celebrated commissioner from England, arrived with the transports at Newport, some while ago: And it is probable, as the British prisoners lately called "Burgoyne's victorious army," will not be permitted to embark there, that his Lordship will visit Boston harbour in order to consult with the British General, before his departure for England, on the subject of a NEW Proclamation.

We are credibly informed that French, West-India, and English goods have fell in their price twenty-five per cent. in Boston, and other sea-ports in this state.

The Continental Currency grows every day more and more in esteem, which must consequently give great pleasure to every well-wisher to his country.

We hear that some important dispatches are lately arrived from France, much in favour of the United States of America.

From the Royal Gazette published by J. Rivington.

NEW-YORK, January 3.

On Wednesday last anchored off the Hook, the Lord Hyde Packet, Captain Jefferies, in six weeks from Falmouth, with Lieutenant Andre, of the Royal Fusiliers, and the October and November mails; on the passage, Capt. Jefferies took a rebel sloop from Kennebeck, which, after taking out her hands, he sunk. The following further particulars are selected from the London papers, which are received to the ninth of November.

Her Majesty was safely delivered of a prince on the 4th of November.---The Duke and Dutchess of Gloucester were returned to England, the former was recovering from his late dangerous illness.---Mr. Samuel Foote died at Dover of a paralytic stroke, on his passage to France.---The parliament of Ireland was met; the Earl of Buckinghamshire's speech, on the opening the session, afforded great satisfaction. [It will ap-

pear in our next week's Gazette.] The minds of the people of England were prepared, by accounts via France, for the intelligence from Saratoga.—The taking of Philadelphia was reported, and by many credited in London.—General Haldimand's voyage to Canada was postponed.—Capt. Dean is appointed commander of the Ruby, a new 64 gun man of war.

The parliament of Great-Britain was expected to meet the 20th of November, for the dispatch of public business.

BALTIMORE, December 9.

Extract of a letter from General Washington, dated November 26, 1777.

"The Marquis de la Fayette went to Jersey with General Green, and I find he has not been inactive there; this you will perceive by the following extract of a letter, just arrived from General Green:—
"The Marquis, with about 400 militia, and the rifle corps, attacked the enemy's picquet last evening, killed about twenty, wounded many more, and took about twenty prisoners. The Marquis is charmed with the spirited behaviour of the militia and rifle corps. They drove the enemy about half a mile, and kept the ground till dark. The enemy's picquet consisted of about 300, and were reinforced during the skirmish. The Marquis is determined to be in the way of danger."

Published by order of Congress,
CHARLES THOMSON, Secy.

IN CONGRESS, December 3, 1777.

WHEREAS the Baron de St. Ouary, a gallant gentleman of France, engaged as a volunteer in the service of the United States, was lately, by the fortune of war, made prisoner by the British troops.

RESOLVED, That General Washington be directed to propose to Gen. Howe, that the Baron de St. Ouary be permitted to return from his captivity, agreeable to the practice of Europe respecting volunteers: That if Gen. Howe shall refuse this, it be proposed to take the Baron's parole for his enlargement, Congress engaging, when an exchange takes place, to return a British officer for the Baron de St. Ouary: And that Gen. Howe be informed, if neither of these propositions be accepted, that it is expected the gentleman will be treated as a prisoner of war, having respect to his merit and rank in the French army.

Extract from the minutes,
Published by order of Congress,
CHARLES THOMSON, Secy.

LANCASTER, Dec. 31.

To the Printer of the PENNSYLVANIA PACKET.
SIR,

The following will enable the publick to judge properly of the conduct of General Howe towards those who by the fortune of war become his prisoners: Your inserting it will oblige one who was an officer on board the Delaware frigate when she unfortunately fell into the enemy's hands.

ON the 27th of September last, by unavoidable accident, the Delaware frigate was captured by Gen. Lord Cornwallis, at Philadelphia. The treatment received from the officers and soldiers at their first coming on board I shall wave, and only inform the publick that several of the same soldiers since, while on guard over us, declared that the General ordered them to plunder whatever might be of use to them; which order was exactly obeyed.

From the ship we were taken to the provost, (the New Gaol) where we were complimented with having our cockades pulled out and hove in our faces, with—"Damn you, ye rebel b—rs, how dare you wear cockades."

All the officers, and as many others as made 20 in number, were for three days locked next to the dungeon, without victuals, &c. and were obliged to ease nature in the same place. We were kept nine days in the provost, during which time we received about 4lb. of ship-bread, one half of which was of such a quality as not to be fit for use; and as to meat one pound and a half was the extent.

The tenth day we were removed to the state-house, as were the officers of our army: The first week our case in regard to provisions was the same as in the provost, being served only once with a small loaf of bread, and once with beef, not exceeding two pounds.

As to the rest of our treatment, it exceeded any thing that can be conceived: We were excluded from seeing our nearest friends; prevented from the use of the state-house yard, although we only requested a few hours in the middle of the day: one person only was allowed the use of the necessary-house, and he with a bayonet at his back, notwithstanding our number was about seventy: We were forbid lifting up any of the windows, so that we were prevented from receiving the benefit of what fresh air that might have been communicated that way: And a certain Captain Hogshaw not only refused to punish a negro for striking one of our officers, but in direct words said that the negro was as good as any of us.

In order to know whether General Howe would remove any of these severities, we remonstrated and prayed for relief, but relief was only to be found in fortitude. One part of his answer, respecting pro-

visions and wood, I shall lay before the publick, viz. "If not enough we might take the benefit of the market." I would ask any man how we were to avail ourselves of a market, when his orders were such as I have described above. And in order that the publick may the better judge whether we had reason to complain or no, I do declare, that for the nine weeks I was a prisoner, there was never more served than from 4 to 6 ounces per day, and if the time should be reckoned that we were without any, it would reduce that quantity to from 3 to 4 ounces per day, and about half a pound of ship bread such as it was. Well may the publick believe the many reports respecting the cruel treatment of prisoners in New-York, &c. when officers are used as above.

The case of the privates confined in the Provost in Philadelphia is really melancholy, and the more so as the charity of certain inhabitants is rendered less useful than it would be by the cruelty of him that has the care of the said gaol (Cunningham is his name) who has deliberately overset at the door, victuals sent to the needy within, and laughing said, "Damn them, let them swallow their spittle and be damn'd." However the serious mind may despise such a wretch, most certain it is that for his good and faithful services he has been preferred.

W. G.

BURLINGTON, Jan. 21.

A correspondent desires us to insert the following.

Extract from a letter dated Philadelphia Jan. 9, 1778.

"This city has lately been entertained with a most astonishing instance of the activity, bravery, and military skill of the royal navy of Great-Britain. The affair is somewhat particular, and deserves your notice. Some time last week two boys observed a keg of a singular construction, floating in the river opposite to the city, they got into a small boat, and attempting to take up the keg, it burst with a great explosion and blew up the unfortunate boys. On Monday last several kegs of a like construction made their appearance—An alarm was immediately spread thro' the city—Various reports prevailed; filling the city and the royal troops with unspeakable consternation. Some reported that these kegs were filled with armed rebels; who were to issue forth in the dead of night, as the Grecians did of old from their wooden horse at the siege of Troy, and take the city by surprize; asserting that they had seen the points of their bayonets thro' the bung-holes of the kegs. Others said they were charged with the most inveterate combustibles, to be kindled by secret machinery, and setting the whole Delaware in flames, were to consume all the shipping in the harbour; whilst others asserted that they were constructed by art magic, would of themselves ascend the wharfs in the night time and roll all flaming thro' the streets of the city, destroying every thing in their way.—Be this as it may—Certain it is that the shipping in the harbour, and all the wharfs of the city were fully manned—The battle begun, and it was surprizing to behold the incessant blaze that was kept up against the enemy, the kegs. Both officers and men exhibited the most unparalleled skill and bravery on the occasion; whilst the citizens stood gazing, as solemn witnesses of their prowess. From the Roebuck and other ships of war, whole broadsides were poured into the Delaware. In short, not a wandering chip, stick, or drift-log but felt the vigour of the British arms. The action began about sun-rise, and would have been compleated with great success by noon, had not an old market woman coming down the river with provisions, unfortunately let a small keg of butter fall over-board, which (as it was then ebb) floated down to the scene of action. At sight of this unexpected reinforcement of the enemy, the battle was renewed with fresh fury—the firing was incessant till the evening closed the affair. The kegs were either totally demolished or obliged to fly, as none of them have shewn their heads since. It is said his Excellency Lord Howe has dispatched a swift sailing packet with an account of this victory, to the court of London.—In a word, Monday the 5th of January 1778, must ever be distinguished in history for the memorable BATTLE OF THE KEGS."

From Boston we learn, that in the ship Hammond, Monsieur Sandis Commander, lately arrived at Portsmouth in New-Hampshire, came passenger the Baron de Stueben, General Quarter-Master, Lieutenant and Aid de Camp to his Prussian majesty; he brought over with him two officers, and is believed to come here with the design of serving America, and to bring letters from our commissioners in France, Messrs. Franklin and Dean, and it is thought will serve in our army.

General LEE, we hear, lately set out on parole from New-York for Boston, to see his old friend General Burgoyne.

AN ANECDOTE.

When Colonel Webb with some others were taken in a late expedition to Long-Island, a little sifer of the smallest size belonging to the state of Connecticut was made prisoner with them, and carried into Rhode-Island. The Colonel being called before the British General, the little sifer fondly followed close at his heels, as anxious to know his fate. Says the

General to him, Who are you? I am, answered the boy, one of king Hancock's men. The General asks, Can you fight? The boy replies, yes sir, I can. Upon this the General calls in one of his sifers, and asks our stripling, whether he dare fight him? He answers, yes sir. The General orders his sifer to strip, and give him battle. The boy stripped as fast, and fell on with such fury, that in a few moments the British sifer was so beaten, that it was thought our little hero would soon have finished him, had he not been rescued. The British General, with a generosity natural to great minds, but seldom displayed by modern Britons, ordered him to be set at liberty for his valour, and he is since returned home.

Trenton, January 12, 1778.

To the MAGISTRATES in TRENTON.

Gentlemen,
I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that having the command of a corps, which, from the fatigues of a laborious campaign, and the severity of the season, is under the necessity of taking shelter to recruit and re-establish itself in your State, am desirous of guarding against any attempts of the enemy which might bring distress upon the good people of this town and its neighbourhood, as you must undoubtedly be sensible that the feat of war is ever exposed to the fury and depredations of the enemy—Nothing on my part shall be neglected to prevent such evils; but all my vigilance may not suffice, without the assistance of the inhabitants, to render my quarters secure: I therefore request of you gentlemen, and the good people of this town, to give me the earliest intelligence of any movement of the enemy you may discover towards this quarter, when, upon all such occasions, I shall take the most efficacious measures to exempt the inhabitants of this town from falling victims to the rage of a desperate and cruel enemy, and convince the publick that the zeal of the troops I command, will prove the justice of those inestimable rights they defend. I further request you will use your endeavours to procure me every convenience necessary for the subsistence of my troops while they occupy this post, in order that I may be enabled to make head against any incursions of the enemy. I expect that your patriotism will inspire you with that diligence and activity requisite to give satisfaction to those men, who from motives of honour, sacrifice themselves to a cause so righteous as that of liberty. These my requests may, if you judge necessary, be printed and handed to the inhabitants of this neighbourhood.

I have the honour to be,
with respect, Gentlemen, your
most obedient humble servant,
C. PULASKI, Gen. of Cavalry.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq.

General and Commander in Chief of the Forces of the United States of America.

BY virtue of the power and direction to me especially given, I HEREBY enjoin and require all persons, residing within seventy miles of my Head Quarters, to thresh one half of their grain by the first day of February, and the other half by the first day of March next ensuing, on pain, in case of failure, of having all that shall remain in sheaves after the period above-mentioned, seized by the Commissaries and Quarter Masters of the army, and paid for as straw.

Given under my hand at Head Quarters, near the Valley Forge, in Philadelphia County, this twentieth day of December, 1777.

G. WASHINGTON.

By His Excellency's command,
ROBERT HARRISON, Secy.

Cumberland County, West New-Jersey, Jan. 21.

TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.

RAN AWAY from the subscriber, on the 20th of August last, an indented MULATTO BOY named Levi, eighteen years of age; he has a down look, slim and straight built: Had on and took with him five shirts, two of them striped flannel; three pair of trowsers, one pair of them striped; three vests, one a light colour, the other a pale red; one pair of light coloured cloth breeches; a cloth coloured great coat. He passes for a free negro, says he has worked about Cohansey Bridge. Any person securing said servant, so that his master may get him again, shall have the above reward paid by

6W* ABIJAH HOLMES.

Lancaster, Jan. 6, 1778.

Just published and to be sold by

FRANCIS BAILEY,
At his Printing-Office the North side of King-street,
a few doors below the Market,

THE LANCASTER
POCKET ALMANACK,

For the YEAR 1778.

* * A second edition of the GERMAN CALENDAR is now in the press, and will be published the latter end of this month.

indeed, by reason of the war has been dearer, but not more than double what it used to be;—will that warrant five and six fold advance on all the necessaries of life? which is in fact the case in almost every instance. But let us go farther, hath not the continent raised an army to defend them, who are engaged for three years or during the war, many of whom have families to maintain at home, while they are jeopardizing their lives in the field, and contracted to pay them wages in proportion as things were then? wheat at four shillings per bushel, &c. and now it is raised to twenty or thirty shillings per bushel, and daily rising, and other things in proportion. I ask the question, will your army continue to defend you in the field, when their wives and their children are famishing and crying for bread at home, through your intolerable oppressions? or will they turn their arms against you, and do themselves justice? My countrymen! for Heaven's sake stop in your mad career, pause a moment and consider, what you are doing, to what your ungodly avarice tends, and tremble at the consequences, unless speedily prevented by a reformation as universal, as the vice is become epidemical.

A CONTINENTALIST.

STATE OF NEW-JERSEY.

A supplementary act to an act, intitled, An act to explain and amend an act, intitled, An Act for the better regulating the militia, and the supplemental act thereto.

WHEREAS in several townships and precincts in this state, the constables have neglected or refused to perform the duties required of them by an act, intitled, *An act to explain and amend an act, intitled, An act for the better regulating the militia, and the supplemental act thereto.*

SECT. 1. BE IT ENACTED by the council and general assembly of this state, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That in every case where the constable or constables of any township or precinct shall neglect or refuse to perform the duties of him or them required by the said act, it shall and may be lawful for any two justices of the peace of the county in which such township lies, to issue their warrant to any non-commissioned officer or private, being a freeholder of any company in which a delinquency may happen, who is hereby empowered and required to execute the office of a constable in such case: And the said non-commissioned officer or private shall receive the like fees and rewards, and be subject to the like fines and forfeitures as any constable in such case might and ought to receive and be subject to.

2. AND WHEREAS the average forfeitures incurred by such delinquents as do not yield their personal service in the field, nor procure substitutes, and for whom the field-officers of the regiment or battalion cannot procure substitutes agreeably to the seventh section of an act, intitled, *An act to explain and amend an act, intitled, An act for the better regulating the militia, and the supplemental act thereto,* are not appropriated in the said act; BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That the field-officers of the several regiments or battalions shall make out, as often as occasion may require, a list of the names of the several persons in their respective regiments or battalions who do not procure substitutes, and for whom the said officers cannot procure substitutes, and shall annex to the said names the average sums in which the delinquents are severally fined; which list the said field-officers shall deliver to any two justices of the peace of the county in which such delinquents reside; and the said justices are hereby required to issue their warrant to any constable, non-commissioned officer or private as in the preceding section of this act is directed, commanding him to levy the same by distress and sale on the goods and chattels of the respective delinquents, and the money when recovered shall be paid to the collector of the county, to be by him paid into the treasury for the use of the state.

3. AND WHEREAS doubts have arisen whether the commissioned officers of each company have, since the passing of the said act, the power of determining upon and admitting excuses agreeably to the thirty-fourth section of the act, intitled, *An act for the better regulating the militia,* passed the fifteenth day of March last; BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That the said commissioned officers of each company have, and they are hereby declared to have and retain the power of hearing, determining upon and admitting excuses as in the said thirty-fourth section of the act for the better regulating the militia is declared and allowed.

4. AND WHEREAS many inconveniences have arisen from the practice of giving exorbitant premiums to substitutes, BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That, from and after the publication of this act, no greater sum than fifty dollars shall be given by the field-officers of any regiment or batta-

lion for a substitute to serve in the place of any militia-man for one month, any law or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Passed at Princeton, Dec. 12, 1777.

STATE OF NEW-JERSEY.

An act to exempt a number of men from actual service in the militia, to be employed in the manufacturing of salt and iron within the State of New-Jersey.

WHEREAS the making and manufacturing of salt and iron in this State, ought to be encouraged and promoted;

SECT. 1. BE IT ENACTED by the council and general assembly of this State, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That at each salt-works erected and carried on in this State, there be exempted from actual service in the militia one man for every five hundred gallons the pans, kettles, or other vessels used for boiling, belonging to the said works, will contain, to be employed only and solely at the works that now are or hereafter may be erected. And that there be exempted from actual service in the militia three men to each forge or bloomary, and twelve men at each furnace, to be employed only and solely at the said forges and furnaces respectively.

2. AND BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That the said exempts shall be armed and accounted by the proprietors or managers of the respective works at which they are employed, shall attend monthly musters and regimental reviews in the companies and regiments within the bounds of which they are severally employed, and shall be taxed as other exempts, agreeably to the act, intitled, *An act for the better regulating the militia,* but shall not be called into actual service unless the county in which they are employed as aforesaid be invaded.

3. PROVIDED ALWAYS, that no owner or possessor of any salt-works or iron-works, or any forge, bloomary or furnace, who has heretofore obtained exemptions for any of their workmen, shall be entitled to any further privilege or allowance of men by this act.

Passed at Princeton, Dec. 11, 1777.

Twenty-fourth of the 12th month, 1777.

TWENTY-FOUR DOLLARS REWARD.

WAS STOLEN out of the subscribers stable, on the 23d of this instant at night, in Nottingham township, Burlington county, a dun roan HORSE, fifteen hands high, four years old next spring, a natural trotter and carries well. And also on the same night, was stolen out of the stable of John Weatherill, in the township and county aforesaid, a bay MARE, three years old next spring, about fourteen hands high, with a small star in her forehead. Whoever takes up the said horses and returns them to the subscribers, and secures the thief or thieves in any gaol, shall have the above reward, or EIGHT DOLLARS for either of the horses, paid by either of the subscribers.

ISAIAH ROBINS.
JOHN WEATHERILL.

BOND AND PAIN,

Have for sale, at their STORE in Morristown, SUGAR, coffee, chocolate, pepper, alspice, indigo, snuff, cloves, mace, cinnamon, nutmegs, handkerchiefs, pins, spelling-books, primers, a quantity of bohea tea, steel plate, handfaws, a few pieces of Dutch linen, &c. &c.

3w*

Extraordinary Wages,

And an exemption from serving in the militia: AND still higher wages, without such exemption, will be given to a few choice wood-cutters and labourers, to be employed at the independent salt-works, about eighteen miles southward of the forks of Little-Egg-Harbour, and two miles northward of Absequean river.

Apply at the said works to
NATHANIEL PETTIT.

WAS LOST,

The first of January 1778, between Trenton and Crosswicks,

RED MOROCCO POCKET-BOOK, containing between eighteen and twenty dollars, ten States lottery tickets, No. 916, 917, 918, 931, 932, 942, 943, 5518, 5498, 5499, and sundry other papers which will be of no use to any but the owner. Whoever hath found the same, and will bring it to the Printer of this paper, shall have the money for their trouble.

December 26, 1777.

TO BE SOLD,

By JOSEPH CARSON, at Bordentown, A FEW hogheads of tobacco, sugar in barrels, loaf sugar ditto; green tea in bottles, West-India rum in hogheads, ivory combs, needles, and a few dozen of psalters, six half pieces superfine cloth, and eighteen pieces of striped shamoys. 4w*

TO THE PUBLIC.

ANY person that has for sale beef, pork, flour, wheat, and potatoes, will find a purchaser in William Crispin, Commissary to the State fleet of Pennsylvania, at Trenton. tf

LAMP, TANNERS,

AND SPERMACE TI OIL, To be sold by THOMAS BUDD, JUN. At Julia-Town, in Burlington County, New-Jersey.

WANTED to hire immediately, a PLANTATION of about 2 or 300 acres, with a sufficient quantity of good meadow. Any person having such a place to let, may hear of a tenant, by applying to the printer of this paper. tf

January 10, 1778.

To all whom it may concern.

State of New-Jersey, ff. NOTICE is hereby given, that a Court of Admiralty will be held in Trenton, at the house of Ranfalear Williams, on Saturday the 31st of January instant, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of the same day, then and there to try the truth of the facts alleged in the bills of Robert Collins (who as well, &c.) against the sloop or vessel called the Sally, her tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo, burden about fifty tons, lately commanded by Randle Mumford: Also of Thomas Willis (who as well, &c.) against the schooner or vessel called the Little Hope, her tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo, burden about forty tons, lately commanded by Captain Meafe: And of Isaac Cooper (who as well, &c.) against the sloop or shallop called and known by the name of Lewis's Mill Boat, her tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo, burden about twenty tons, lately commanded by Daniel Butler. To the end and intent that the owner or owners of the said vessels and their cargoes, or any person concerned therein, may appear and shew cause, if any they have, why the same should not be condemned according to the prayer of the said Bills.

By order of the Judge,
BOWES REED, PRO. REG.

December 19, 1777.

TO BE SOLD, A QUANTITY of Spanish made SUGAR; in hogheads, barrels, or smaller quantity, by WILLIAM MONTGOMERY, near Allen-Town.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY, TEN or fifteen gallons of good old LINSRED OIL. Any person having such a quantity for sale, may hear of a purchaser by conveying a line to the printer hereof.

TRACT of near six hundred acres of good land, in three plantations, adjoining each other, with houses, barns, stables, and other improvements, lying in the county of Middlesex, and eastern division of New-Jersey, is to be exchanged for a well improved plantation of equal value in the western division of New-Jersey, any where between Woodberry and Crosswicks. The title of the above-mentioned land is indisputable, free of every kind of incumbrance, and has been purchased some time. For further particulars enquire of Mr. Peter Shiras in Mount-Holly.

N. B. A good chair and saddle horse, also a riding chair with a top and apron complete and almost new, to be sold, enquire as above. 3w

WANTED,

A quantity of good clean LAMPBLACK. Any person having it for sale, is requested to inform the printer hereof.

A GOOD PRICE AND READY MONEY.

Is given by the Printer hereof, for CLEAN LINEN RAGS, AND HOGS BRISTLES.

BURLINGTON: Printed by ISAAC COLLINS. All Persons may be supplied with this GAZETTE at *Twenty-six Shillings per Annum.* Advertisements of a moderate Length are inserted for *Seven Shillings and Six-pence* each the first Week, and *Two Shillings and Six-pence* for every Continuance; and long Ones in Proportion.