

NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1778.

To the PRINTER of the New-Jersey Gazette.

S I R,

THE reasons advanced in the enclosed letter, having fully convinced me of the absurdity of a certain measure, much talked of in some places of late; and as they might perhaps, if handed to the public, have the like good effect upon others, I cannot but wish you to give the letter at large a place in your paper. Its not having been designed for the public eye, will, I presume, sufficiently apologize for any little inaccuracies that may be observed by the curious.

T. W.

Jan. 2, 1778.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,

YOUR favour of the 20th of last month I just now received, and am much pleased with your clear and circumstantial account of the state of our affairs; and also with your remarks upon some of the late proceedings of government. In the sequel, you are pleased to ask me, what objections I have to taxing bonds, bills, and other specialties, drawing interest? To give you a full answer to this question, would require more time than I can at present spare. I will, however, endeavour to send you a few of my objections in a short way.

First. The measure appears to me to be exceptionable, in that it would probably be attended with effects injurious to this State, in settling our quota of taxes with the other States. The computed wealth of each State, may, hereafter, if not in the first instance, be the rule whereby to fix and regulate its quota; and as that will probably be taken from the assessors duplicates, where bonds and bills (which are really no part of the wealth of any country, farther than the value of the paper and parchment extends) to be inserted in our duplicates, as part of our property, it might be a means of raising the quota of the state far beyond what it ought to be.

But lest you should doubt the reality of what I have said respecting bonds and bills being no part of the wealth of a country; I will state a case, that perhaps will set it in a clear light. Let us suppose New-Jersey to be, at this time, worth just one million sterling; that the present proprietors sell it for that sum, to such of the community as have no property, and take their bonds and bills for the money. Here you see bonds and bills would take place for a million of money, without increasing the wealth of the state one farthing: New-Jersey would still remain to be worth but just one million. Which very plainly shows, as I said before, that bonds and bills are no part of the wealth of a country; nor does it less plainly show how absurd it would be to give them a place in our duplicates.

2dly. I object to the measure as impracticable. Bonds and bills, like cash, are usually kept secret. Some people perhaps would render an account of all they have, others of part, and some of none. And which way, let me ask, should we ever get rid of this difficulty—of this total uncertainty—so as to render the measure with any tolerable face of justice practicable? For my part I see no way: unless each assessor should be obliged to examine upon oath or affirmation, every person within his precinct, whenever a new assessment is made, respecting the bonds and bills he or she may then have. Nor indeed would this (though a curious piece of business) be very likely to answer the end. For if men can hardly swear the truth between neighbour and neighbour, where they are at all connected with either side, much less would they be likely to do it between themselves and the publick: and such frequent and general swearing, would naturally render an oath more and more familiar, and, in proportion, diminish the force of the obligation. In short, I fear the constant and strong temptation to perjury, that would attend this kind of swearing, would so far get the better of human virtue, as to render an oath of little or no signification. Perjury, like other crimes, would seem to lose its criminality in proportion as it should become fashionable.

Vice is a monster of so frightful mien, As, to be hated, needs but to be seen;

Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face,

We first endure, then pity, then embrace."

It might be observed too, that putting men upon their oaths in cases where their own interest is at stake, would be repugnant to one of the oldest and most approved maxims of our law. But then perhaps old maxims may not be worth our notice. For some of us, without one jot of experience in the business of legislation, and with but very little knowledge of the law, and less of politicks, are so much wiser than our predecessors, either here or in Britain,

notwithstanding their great experience in legislative affairs, their diligent researches after political knowledge, and the purest principles and theory of civil government, as to be able to form for ourselves maxims far superior to theirs, and to bring into existence schemes equally new and admirable.

It should ever be an invariable rule to make nothing taxable but what is visible; and the moment we quit this ground, we step into the dark, ridiculously to grope after what we can never obtain.

The parliament of Britain have long been at their wits end for ways and means whereby to raise supplies of cash adequate to the demands of the state; and yet they have never, in any one instance, undertaken to tax bonds, bills or mortgages. Our assemblies too have ever avoided the measure. But then what is that to us? We say they were all wrong. Are we sure that we are right? He who quits the old beaten way, should first take care to be well advised of a better. There is frequently more in old ways to recommend them, than we are at first aware of. Hence custom is said to be an argument of right; and this argument is directly against us. Custom too, is an apology for doing wrong. But if we should depart from the old ground, or mode of taxation, what apology will there be found for us, in a case that should prove to be wrong?

People are generally best satisfied with what they have been most used to. It is not sufficient that you lay no greater burden upon a man than he has been accustomed to bear: You must lay it upon the very same shoulder that he has been used to carry it upon; otherwise he will feel himself uneasy, and perhaps give you trouble.

We may think our leaders have all hitherto gone wrong: and we may have honest intentions to rectify their errors: but then don't let us be too hasty in making the attempt. A second thought frequently corrects the first; and this year's experience may render us much more capable of rectifying the errors of our ancestors, than at present we are; or it may possibly convince us, that they have left us none to rectify. It often happens that we think others err, merely because we have not judgment sufficient to discover the reason and rectitude of their conduct. And when this is the case, time, and a dispassionate inquiry, usually prove the best remedies.

3dly. I object to the measure as unjust. It would raise a two-fold tax upon property. Suppose, for instance, A to have a farm worth one thousand pounds, and no other estate; that B, who has no estate, purchases the farm of A for the sum mentioned, and gives him a bond for the money, payable with interest from the day of purchase. Here, 'tis plain, that A and B, taken together, would have but one thousand pounds worth of property; yet according to our scheme, they must be taxed as tho' they had two—B for the farm, and A for its value. A most glaring piece of iniquity! iniquity however that attends the measure, trace it where you will. For if B had borrowed a thousand pounds of A, and laid it out in a farm, or other taxable property, the case would have been just the same—B must have paid tax for the property, and A for its value.

As the property is ever in the hands of the borrower, there, and there only, it can with propriety be taxed. And if upon a general scale, interest is so high that the borrower cannot afford to pay the tax, let it be reduced; or let him be authorized to deduct the tax out of the interest when he pays it. Either of these ways would be practicable and just; but the former, perhaps, would be much the most eligible. Our duplicates might then remain as they are—they would not exhibit an exaggerated idea of our wealth—they would not be disgraced by partial accounts of bonds and bills, mere imaginary property; nor would our assessors be degraded by being turned into so many legal pimps—by being compelled to pry into people's private and secret concerns—to inquire after their bonds and bills, debts and credits; matters that the publick have in reality no right to meddle with; and which genuine pimps alone would care to inquire after. Men of honour and delicate feelings would disdain the ungracious task. They would blush to ask the questions, and they would scorn to give the answers.

I admire the promoters of this curious scheme have never, in their great zeal for justice and impartial dealing, thought of setting on foot a similar one with regard to landlords and tenants. Surely it would be as just to tax both landlord and tenant for the property in the hands of the tenant, as to tax the borrower and lender of money for the property in the hands of the borrower. If it would be unjust to levy a two-fold tax in the former case, why not in the latter? Some indeed say they are for the

better, because it would lessen the tax upon the rest of the community. (O how merciful!) But would not the former also? And were we to tax red hair and long noses, it would have just the same effect; and yet I suppose nobody ever dreamt of considering them as proper objects of taxation.

You lend me, on easy terms (which the legal terms are ever to be supposed to be) your money to make an estate with. Now the question is, whether you, or I, ought to pay tax for this money, whilst I possess it? For that we should both pay tax for it, is really a proposition too ridiculous to deserve any serious attention. And were you to ask me the question, I am sure I should be ashamed to answer, that you ought to pay the tax. I may very well be supposed to derive a much greater profit from the money than you will whilst it remains in my hands: And upon this supposition, your paying tax for it must be the height of injustice. But really I see no injustice in my paying tax for it, whilst I possess it with a view of gain; even though the benefit I derive from it, should not be equal to yours. For upon what principle of equity can I expect to have your property on equal terms of advantage with you? If you risk your money in my hands upon such terms, as to enable me to pay tax for it, and at the same time to increase my estate faster by the use of it, than I otherwise could have done, with the same care and industry, I am clearly beholden to you for that extraordinary gain. And why the profit I derive from your money, should exceed, or equal yours, in order to render it just for me to pay the tax, I cannot conceive; though I know it is a doctrine held forth by some. If by the utmost stretch of industry and care, I can now clear but fifty pounds a year, and by your lending me one thousand pounds, at seven per cent per annum, taxable in my hands, I am enabled to clear fifty pounds a year more; am I to quarrel with the contract subsisting between you and me as hard or unjust, because the gain I derive from your property is not equal to yours? Surely if your money enables me to double my income, without any additional fatigue of body or mind, I ought to think myself exceedingly well dealt by, and greatly obliged to you for risking it in my hands. And was I to ask you to pay tax for it whilst I possess it, it would certainly evidence a degree of meanness, that you would most heartily despise. But then perhaps what would be mean—what would be despicable in an individual to ask, may well enough become a legislature to enforce.

The property being universally taxable in the hands of the borrower, it is to be supposed that all legislatures, whoever undertook to regulate the interest of money, would naturally regulate it accordingly—so that they would fix it so low as to enable the borrower to pay the tax. And this being done, how barefacedly unjust would it be still to compel the lender to pay it? or indeed to pay any tax at all for the money lent? Surely there is not a man of sense and justice, but what would blush at the attempt.

4thly. I object to the measure on account of the present great depreciation of cash. Whatever money might have been heretofore, it is certainly now so fallen in value, as to be utterly unable to bear a tax. Great numbers of the inhabitants of this state, who depend chiefly upon the interest of their money for support, know not, at this hour, which way to get bread to eat, and cloaths to wear. And shall government add to their distress, by saddling them with a burden equally oppressive and unprecedented: A burden not only unjust in its nature, but which they are by no means able to bear? Those indeed who have money at interest, and yet are in some kind of profitable business, farmers, merchants, mechanicks, &c. may perhaps, from the great gain they derive from their respective employments, be able to bear the tax with some degree of ease; but among those who may more properly be called the monied part of the community, from their being chiefly supported by the interest of their money, I believe there are but few, very few, but what would feel it as a grievous oppression. If when every hundred pounds they had would bring them seven per cent per annum, and the necessaries of life were not half as dear as they now are, they could but just bring the year about; it is easy to conceive, that they must now be reduced to the greatest difficulty, and that a small additional burden would be exceedingly hard to bear. And that there are great numbers in such a situation cannot be doubted. Nor can it be doubted, by any who have the feelings of humanity, or are endowed with the common principles of justice, but that their case demands relief from government, rather than oppression. Es-

[For the remainder see the fourth page.]

THE detention of Burgoyne and his army, until the Convention of Saratoga is ratified in the Court of Great-Britain, is a measure founded on the truest policy and the strictest justice. Ever since the commencement of the present war, it hath been the cruel and perfidious policy of Britain to consider us as rebels, with whom engagements were not to be observed and whom she might treat with the utmost severity.---Early in the contest we find the king's representative in the double character of Governor and General, violating his plighted faith, and in defiance of a publick and solemn treaty with the inhabitants of Boston, detaining their prisoners and robbing them of their property :---For these, it seems, were men, " whose lives by the laws of the land were destined to the cord." His surly successor carefully treads in the same track of perfidy, and seldom hath he deviated from it---Three thousand freemen capitulate on condition of being treated as prisoners of war---but the moment their arms are out of their hands, they are treated as rebels, crowded together in the holds of transports, or amidst the unwholesome damps of churches, and suffered to perish with hunger and cold---The parliament itself, considering the seamen in the service of these States as pirates and rebels, worthy to die, have cruelly condemned them when taken, to shed the blood of their brethren and friends, directing that they be entered as volunteers on board their ships of war, and punished with death if they presume to desert---But these acts, it seems, did not speak plain enough---Lord Stormont has been more explicit---he has given us his master's determination on this head, and has assured the American Ambassadors at the court of France, that " he treats not with rebels, except when they come to ask pardon"---Thus considered, and thus treated as we are, can folly itself suppose that the British tyrant would consider the Convention of Saratoga as sacred and inviolable; or that a haughty parliament, in the plenitude of its omnipotence, would regard an agreement which they could cancel with impunity?---May, did not their Lieutenant-General himself so far disregard the honour of a gentleman and the faith of the treaty, as to violate it grossly the moment it was signed; for it is a known fact, that between his final agreement to the terms, and the hour of surrender, the arms were so abused and mutilated, that of 3000 muskets which were grounded at the verge of the river, there were not 300 fit for service.

These repeated violations of all that is honourable and just, forbid us to trust the faith of Britain again until the publicly and expressly acknowledges our national capacity to make treaties, and our power to bind her Generals---We have pursued an open and ingenuous conduct long enough---we have pursued it too long---for in no instance did it ever induce a similar return---We treated them generously while they violated every principle of justice---We treated them kindly while they outraged every sentiment of humanity---We remonstrated often---but we stopped short in remonstrance, and seldom proceeded to retaliation---We have borne their cruelty and frauds with a patience unparalleled in history---with a patience which sometimes appeared to border on timidity; and frequently have they braved us, and said that we treated them well because we dared not use them ill---My cheek reddens with shame and indignation at the recollection of the insult.

One advantage however hath flowed from our meekness. It hath convinced the world that the aspersions of our enemies are false, and that cruelty and outrage are not the characteristics of America. And I hope that our future conduct will also prove that our forbearance flowed, not from poorness of spirit, but from the pure principles of policy and humanity.

The late resolute measure of the Congress respecting Burgoyne will no doubt gall the haughty spirit of Britain.---She must either acknowledge that she considers us as an independent power, or she must leave her northern army prisoners in our hands---It will show her that we are determined to be trampled on no longer---It will teach her to respect us as freemen, and will compel her to be honest by making it her interest.---I hope the spirit which dictated this manly resolve will never subside in our national council. We have crouched to insult long enough---For the future let us act with that resolution which should mark the character of an independent people---Let every injury meet its proper retaliation---Let us treat them as robbers and murderers when they presume to treat us as rebels---our character will rise in the eyes of the world as well as of the enemy---But if lost to a sense of interest, of honour and of justice, we tamely submit to be treated as the rebel-subjects of a tyrant,---let us blush to say we are free and independent.

Penns. Jan. 28, 1778. ADOLPHUS.

Mr. PRINTER, January 9, 1778.

ANY hint or improvement in agriculture, ought to be communicated to the publick, especially at the time of this unhappy struggle, when necessity will, if inclination don't, urge each individual to economy and industry---the grand article of the culture of flax at this juncture, deserves a particular attention---I last season made the following experiment, having often heard of a second crop of flax, that is, to sow the same ground over again with flax-seed as soon as the first crop is taken off.---I was of an opinion, that if it would answer then, it was

highly probable it would do three weeks or a month sooner.---I had about two acres of common pasture land, ploughed and intended for wheat; one half I had cross-ploughed and well harrowed, the other was only harrowed, on which I sowed the seed pretty thick the last week in June, and in ten weeks from the time of sowing, I had the flax pulled, spread and sufficiently rotted for dressing; the flax, according to the opinion of good judges, was well linted and very soft; and that there will be at least an hundred and forty weight of flax from the two bushels of seed, which I account as so much clear gain, having a tolerable good crop put in at the usual time, and a lucky shift for any farmer, whose early sown flax may be cut short by the frost or any other accident. Yours, &c.

A Farmer of Middlesex, South Rariton.

L O N D O N, Oct. 31.

LORD Chatham is better in health than he has been for many years past. Apartments are taken in town for his winter residence, by which it is supposed he means to give close attendance at Westminster the ensuing sessions.

Upwards of thirty sail of ships, with their lading on board, are now detained in the river for want of sailors; and so great is the scarcity of landsmen, that the ordinary seamen refuse to go on board, unless the captains will sign to give them 3l. 16s. per month, during the whole voyage.

Extract of a letter from L'Orient, O.R. 10.

"Four prizes to American privateers are now lying in this harbour, two of them West-Indiamen, one a brig from Ireland to Bourdeaux, and the fourth a Newfoundland. The privateers took care to get rid of the masters and mates, and the crew never care for the ship and cargo, if they can get their clothes and liberty; so that though the court of France has ordered no Prizes to be admitted, yet who is to claim them? And before letters can be sent to England, and received from thence, the vessels and cargoes are sold, and the money disposed of."

PORTSMOUTH, (N. H.) Jan. 20.

Last Tuesday arrived here the ship Portsmouth, John Hart, commander, in nine weeks from Bourdeaux.---On his passage to this place, fell in with and took the following vessels, viz. Brig Emperor of Germany, laden with beef and butter: Brig George, laden with dry fish: Brig Swan, of 8 carriage guns, laden with beef, butter and herrings: And letter of marque ship, New Duckinfield, mounting 20 carriage guns, laden with dry goods, wines, &c.

NEW-LONDON, Jan. 25.

The Alfred frigate, capt. Hinman, belonging to the United States, is arrived at France, where she carried in and sold two Jamaica men of considerable value.

YORK-TOWN, (Pennsylvania.)

IN CONGRESS, December 30, 1777.

Resolved, THAT all persons inhabitants of any of these United States, who have voluntarily enlisted, or shall so enlist with or join the enemy of the said United States, and have been or shall be taken in arms, be confined in close goals, subject to be delivered up to the respective States, to which they respectively belong, to be dealt with agreeable to the laws thereof; and that the Commissary General of prisoners and his deputies be directed from time to time to transmit to the respective States the names of such of their citizens, who have been made prisoners.

FEBRUARY 9.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the supreme executive powers of every State, to give attention to the conduct and behaviour of all continental officers, civil or military, in the execution of their respective offices: That the said executive powers be authorized to suspend from pay and employment for misbehaviour or neglect of duty, within their respective States, any officer of the Staff, or other civil officer aforesaid not immediately appointed by Congress, and to make a temporary appointment in his place, if necessary, and to remove such of the said civil officers as shall appear to be supernumerary, forthwith reporting in either case their proceedings to Congress. That in case of any reprehensible conduct in any other officer of the United States, it be recommended to the executive powers aforesaid, to inquire into the circumstances of the case, and if in a civil officer appointed by Congress, to transmit an account thereof to Congress, if in a military officer, to lay the same as soon as possible before the Commander in Chief, or Commanding Officer of the department.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Legislatures of the several States, to enact laws for the most speedy and effectual recovery of debts due to the United States of America.

Extract from the minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

BURLINGTON, Feb. 25.

To the Inhabitants of New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia.

Friends, Countrymen and Fellow Citizens!

AFTER three campaigns, during which the brave subjects of these States have contended, not unsuccessfully, with one of the most powerful kingdoms on earth, we now find ourselves at least upon a level with our opponents; and there is the best

reason to believe that efforts adequate to the abilities of this country, would enable us speedily to conclude the war, and to secure the invaluable blessings of peace, liberty and safety. With this view, it is in contemplation, at the opening of the next campaign, to assemble a force sufficient not barely to cover the country from a repetition of those depredations, which it hath already suffered, but also to operate offensively, and to strike some decisive blow.

In the prosecution of this object, it is to be feared that so large an army may suffer for the want of provisions.---The distance between this and the eastern States, whence considerable supplies of flesh have been hitherto drawn, will necessarily render those supplies extremely precarious. And unless the virtuous yeomanry of the States of New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, will exert themselves to prepare cattle for the use of the army, during the months of May, June and July next, great difficulties may arise in the course of the campaign: It is, therefore, recommended to the inhabitants of those States, to put up and feed immediately, as many of their flock-cattle as they can spare, so as that they may be driven to this army within that period. A bountiful price will be given, and the proprietors may assure themselves that they will render a most essential service to the illustrious cause of their country, and contribute, in a great degree, to shorten this bloody contest. But should there be any so insensible to the common interest, as not to exert themselves upon these generous principles, the private interest of those whose situation makes them liable to become immediate subjects to the enemy's incursions, should prompt them at least to a measure which is calculated to save their property from plunder, their families from insult, and their own persons from abuse, hopeless confinement, or perhaps a violent death.

G. WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Valley-Forge, February 18, 1778.

We hear that an exchange of prisoners is soon to take place between General Washington and General Howe, the latter having consented to give up the point so long in dispute about the prisoners sent out last winter on parole: Most of them were treated so hardly that they died soon after their arrival among us, or were rendered for-ever unfit for service; and consequently were not proper objects of an exchange.

Last Monday a handsome collection of clothing and linen was sent to the hospital at Princeton, for the use of the sick and wounded, being the reasonable and charitable donation of the Rev. Mr. Green's congregation in Hanover, Morris county.

A transport ship, having on board upwards of 200 American prisoners, lately left Halifax under convoy of an English frigate, bound for New-York---Fortunately a storm arose soon after they left port, and separating the transport from her convoy, the prisoners rose and made themselves masters of the ship, and carried her into Marblehead.

It is reported, that on Sunday se'nnight upwards of 100 of the enemy's foot, and a number of cavalry, were made prisoners near Derby, by a detachment from our army under the command of General Scott.

Several deserters have come to this city from Philadelphia since our last.

From Philadelphia we learn, that great part of Charles-Town, the capital of South-Carolina, has lately been by accident reduced to ashes.

From a New-York Paper we have extracted the following Intelligence, viz.

L O N D O N,

Dec. 9. General Haldimand, the new appointed Governor of Quebec, is now in Germany aiding the endeavours of Col. Faucit, to procure more troops for the service of Great-Britain.

It is asserted, that notwithstanding the present unpromising aspect of our affairs in America, Administration are determined to prosecute the war with greater vigour than ever; for which purpose 25,000 additional troops are to be sent over in the spring.

A bill was read the second time for the continuance of an act, intitled, "An act for receiving and lodging in proper prisons, all such persons as shall be found guilty or suspected of high treason in his Majesty's colonies in America, or on the high seas, &c."

The following German troops, are said to be negotiated by Colonel Faucit, in addition to those already in America.

From the Duke of Wirtemberg,	3000
From the Prince of Hesse,	2500
From the Duke of Mecklenberg,	3000
From the Margrave of Ansbach,	1000
From the Duke of Saxe Gotha,	2000
Total	11,500

Dec. 10. The conference between Lord Weymouth and the French Ambassador on Monday last, is said to be in consequence of a determination in the cabinet to employ 20,000 Russians, for the ensuing campaign.

Dec. 11. From Dublin we learn, that three regiments of Roman Catholics are again become objects of publick attention, and that it is generally believed will be established, and sent to America.

We hear from undoubted authority that the principal inhabitants of the loyal town of Manchester, as soon as they had received the disagreeable news from Quebec, met and resolved to make an offer to his Majesty, to raise him a thousand men, or more.

to be completed and ready for the American service in two months. A very considerable sum was subscribed for that purpose in a few hours. An express to Lord North was dispatched by Sir Thomas Egerton, member for Lancashire, with the said offer. We flatter ourselves, that this spirited example will be followed by every manufacturing town in this kingdom.

Extract of a letter from Lancaster, dated Feb. 12.
 "Last week a court-martial was held here to try a fellow which General Howe had sent out to buy horses from the Tories, and to take such as belonged to the whigs. He was taken upon his return near the enemy's lines, with a number of horses procured as aforesaid. Two others also were made prisoners who accompanied a flag from Gen. Howe, but broke off from the same some miles into the country, and were taken up as spies, and tried with the former. It is said that they are all condemned to be hanged, but the judgment is not yet made public."

* * * *The Debates in the House of Commons on the 2d of December last, came to hand too late for this Day's Paper. Many Articles of Intelligence, Advertisements, &c. are also omitted this Week for Want of Time and Room, which will be in our next.*

†† The PRINTING-OFFICE is now removing from this Place to Trenton, where Business will be carried on as usual.

A SMALL parcel of ALLUM, LOAF SUGAR, and good BOHEA TEA, to be sold by
JOHN MURRAY,
 In POTTS-GROVE, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY.
 4 w †

T O B E S O L D,
 A LARGE new DWELLING-HOUSE and forty-six acres of LAND, now in the possession of Henry Waddell at Freehold, in the county of Monmouth, New-Jersey. The house contains nine rooms, (seven of them with fire-places) two kitchens with bed-rooms for servants, a fine dry cellar, &c. The out-houses consist of a small building of three rooms, (two of them with fire-places) built for an office, a bathing-house, a milk-room, a smook-house, large and convenient stables for horses, a barn, an house for cattle, &c. The land is in good fence, and has on it an apple orchard and a peach orchard, containing together about seven hundred trees, also about one hundred and eighty trees, (brought from Prince's famous nursery on Long-Island) being a collection of the best fruit of all kinds, such as apples, pears, peaches, plumbs, nectarines, apricots, cherries, &c. Any person desirous of purchasing the above house and land may know the terms of sale by applying to Henry Waddell, who has also to dispose of one hundred acres of pasture land, lying within three quarters of a mile of the above premises.
Freehold, 7th February, 1778. 10 w *

FORTY DOLLARS REWARD.

STOLEN from the subscriber the sixteenth of July last, a chestnut brown HORSE, about fifteen hands high, seven or eight years old, with a bald face, one of his hind feet white, had a small piece of skin sticking out about three quarters of an inch long, on the left side of his breast, occasioned by a rowel. Any person delivering said horse to the subscriber, living near Somerset court-house, in New-Jersey, shall be entitled to the above reward, or Twenty Dollars reward for any person that shall give information where said horse may be had, and all reasonable charges paid by
 3 w * **REYNEER VEGHTE.**

Second month, 23d, 1778.

RUN-AWAY from the subscriber, near Mount-Holly, about the 10th of last month, an apprentice lad named LEVI BISHOP, by trade a taylor, between 19 and 20 years of age, about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, has a down look and bushy hair; had on and took with him when he went away a light coloured homespun coat with wooden buttons, a home made mixed under jacket, half worn leather breeches, homespun shirts, two pair of grey stockings, one pair ribbed, old neat's leather shoes that had been caped and soled, with carved buckles, a half worn fur hat, but it is likely he will change his name and clothes. He was draughted out in the Northampton Militia, with Capt. Weaver, but left him, and I hear is gone to the salt works at Squan, where he has a brother that goes by the name of Joseph Bishop. Any person that will apprehend the said apprentice and confine him in Burlington gaol, so that his master shall get him again, shall have ONE SIXTH OF A DOLLAR reward, paid by me
 2 w **JABEZ WOOLSTON.**

Mount-holly, Feb. 18.

GOOD old FRENCH BRANDY, JAMAICA SPIRIT and WEST-INDIA RUM, to be sold by PETER SHIRAS, by the hoghead, barrel or gallon. very reasonable.
 4 w *

350 Dollars Reward.

RAN-AWAY the 8th day of February, 1778, from the subscribers, three Negro men, viz. one named NEAN, about 25 years old, a middle sized fellow, has thick lips, and stutters very much in his speech when he speaks in a hurry; had on a brown coat, a blue jacket and buckskin breeches. One named JAMES, about 20 years old, a short chunky fellow, had on a good castor hat, two jackets, the upper one a light grey, and leather breeches, and likes much to play on the fife.---The other named CUFF, about 30 years old, a well set fellow, about 5 feet 8 inches high; had on a beaver hat, a blue coat, red jacket, cloth breeches and new shoes, and is very fond of playing on the fiddle. As they were seen near Frankfort, it is supposed they are in or near Philadelphia. Whoever takes up and secures the said Negroes in Trenton gaol, so that their masters may have them again, shall have the above reward, or an equal reward for either of them.

**WILLSON HUNT,
 JOHN HUNT,
 JOSEPH BURROWES,**

3 w

Hopewell, February 2, 1778.

WAS taken out of a yard between Andrew Merthons tavern and Pennington, in Hopewell, a black roan MARE, about five years old, English made, with a saddle and bridle; she trots, paces and gallops, her off hind foot white, the other has a little white about the hoof, a black head, mane and foretop, the two latter very bushy. She is about 14 hand-high, with a blaze. The saddle has neither housin or saddle-cloth, and otherwise out of repair; a shaffle bridle with a running rein. The thief, as is supposed, is a short well set man, has dark brown bushy hair, had on a small hat, an old brown coat, leather breeches, a new pair of shoes, and calls himself William Williams. Whoever takes up the thief so that he may be brought to justice, and secures the mare, saddle and bridle so that the owner may have them again, shall receive Twenty Dollars reward and reasonable charges paid by
NATHAN MOORE.

In CONGRESS, January 6, 1778.

WHEREAS it appears by a return made to the Board of Treasury, from the Managers of the Lottery of the United States, that the invasion of the State of Pennsylvania by the enemy has obstructed this business, and produced considerable delays in the sale of tickets, inasmuch that the number yet remaining on hand renders it necessary once more to postpone the drawing thereof: And whereas Congress being desirous so far as possible to fulfil the expectations of the adventurers, think it proper to give them the fullest assurance that at the time herein proposed, the Managers are to proceed on this business without further delay.

Resolved, That the drawing of the First Class of the Lottery mentioned, be postponed to the first day of May next, at which time the Managers are directed to proceed therein, and complete it as soon as may be; and that all the tickets then unfold shall be the property, and at the risk of the United States.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

TREASURY OFFICE, York-Town, Jan. 8, 1778.

CONGRESS having directed that the Lottery of the United States shall be absolutely drawn on the first day of May next, and that all the tickets then remaining unfold shall be the property, and at the risk of the said States.

Resolved, That the Managers of the said Lottery be directed to order each person employed by them or by the respective States, who shall on the 30th day of April next, have in his hands any tickets of the First Class of said Lottery for sale on the public account, to deliver them on that day to the Governor or President of the Council of the State in which he resides, who is requested to receive the same and sign quadruplicate certificates therefor, specifying the number of each ticket so delivered, one certificate to be given to the person of whom he may receive such tickets, one to be retained by himself, one to be transmitted to the managers, and the other forthwith sent to the Board of Treasury, together with such tickets, under the seal of the State; and that the Managers be further directed to deliver to the Board of Treasury on the said 30th day of April next, the tickets then in their hands, together with an invoice of their numbers, taking certificates therefor as aforesaid, and to draw the Lottery in the place where the Congress shall then be sitting.

That all tickets not returned on the said 30th day of April next, either to the Board of Treasury or the Governors or the Presidents of Council as above directed, shall be considered as purchased by, and at the risk of the possessors of such tickets.

Extract from the Minutes,

WILLIAM GOVETT, A. Aud. Gen.

IN PURSUANCE of the above Resolutions directing the drawing of the Lottery absolutely to commence on the first day of May next, and to be drawn without delay, the Managers acquaint the publick that the offices for the sale of tickets are still open in the different States, where any person or company may be supplied if they apply before the 30th of April next. No tickets to be sold on any account after said day.

(All Printers on the Continent are requested to insert the above, and continue it for six weeks.)

ALL persons indebted to the estate of the Widow Van Allen, late of the city of New-Brunswick, deceased, are hereby requested to pay their respective accounts to the subscriber at Trenton, or to Mr. William Harrison in New-Brunswick: And those that have any demands against the said estate, are desired to bring in their accounts properly attested to the above-named persons.

3 w * **SAMUEL H. SULLIVAN, Administrat.**

T O B E S O L D,

On the 12th day of March next, at the house of Mr. Geromus Vanderbelt, in the township of New-Shanneck, and county of Somerset;

SUNDRY HOUSEHOLD GOODS, viz. a good eight day clock, beds, chairs, tables and kitchen furniture. The vendue to begin at ten o'clock in the forenoon, where attendance will be given by me,

3 w *

S. H. SULLIVAN.

JOHN DENNIS

INTENDS to prosecute the HAT MAKING business, as he formerly did at New-Brunswick, where proper encouragement will be given to good journeymen, and the highest price for all sorts of FURS. He is also in want of a quantity of BEESWAX, for which the greatest price will be given.---He thanks his former customers in particular, and the publick in general, for past favours: Those that are pleased to continue their custom, shall be served with good hats, and in a punctual manner.
 4 w

New-Brunswick, Feb. 3, 1778.

February 4, 1778.

LAST night was stolen out of the stable of JOSEPH HART, Esquire, in Warminster township, Bucks county, a large well made strawberry roan HORSE, 11 or 12 years old, a natural pacer, but trots some and canters pretty well; has a blaze in his face; his hind feet white, and some white on one of his fore feet (this not quite certain): Also a considerable mixture of white on the top, or upper part of his tail; he has been used to the collar, which has left a mark of some depth on the top of his neck, now grown up with hair so as not to be easily discerned by the eye. He is gentle, shod all round, and in tolerable order. Any person securing the thief and horse, so that the former may be brought to justice, and the owner get his horse, shall have a reward of TEN POUNDS, and for the horse only SIX POUNDS, paid by
 3 w * **JOHN HART.**

Bordentown, Jan. 31, 1778.

FOUR POUNDS REWARD.

STRAYED away some time last September from Bordentown two COWS, one a black with some white in her face, and some letters branded on her horns, intended for the name of Knox, five years old. The other a small brown COW, with crumped horns, three years old. FORTY SHILLINGS will be paid for either, or FOUR POUNDS for both, by
 6 w * **OKEY HOAGLAND.**

DILLON and SHINN,

Have for sale in Mount-holly, the following Articles:

SUPERFINE buff, scarlet, blue and light coloured broad-cloths; light and brown homespun do. green and red baiz; cotton and linen checks; Irish sheeting, and a few pieces of Britannias; cambricks, muslins and lawns; cotton calicoes and chintz; plain silk gauze; pins and needles; cotton and linen handkerchiefs; threads---with a variety of grocery, consisting of Muscovado and loaf sugar, by the barrel or smaller quantity; excellent fresh Bohea tea; allum and copperas; molasses; West India rum, and some choice old Jamaica spirit by the gallon or barrel; a small quantity of china, some of which are odd; pepper and allspice; a few wool hats, &c. &c.
 3 w §

FISHER and ROBERTS,

Have for Sale, at their STORE in Trenton at the house that Harrison formerly kept store at,

SPIRIT of the best Quality by the hoghead, barrel or gallon; Madeira Wine by the quarter cask or gallon; Gin by the gallon; Loaf and Muscovado Sugars; Tea, Chocolate, Allum, Copperas, striped Linen, Womens Shoes, Mens Mittens, Silk Mohair, &c. &c.
 1 w *

Feb. 17, 1778.

TEN DOLLARS REWARD.

TAKEN out of the house of the subscriber at the New-Mills near Mount-holly, the 13th inst. at night, a SILVER WATCH, with a silver face, maker's name C. Rigdel, London. As a certain John Kelly, alias John Wheeler, who said he was a light horseman and had lately deserted from the British army, lodged at the subscriber's house that night, he is suspected of the theft: He is about five feet eight or nine inches high, and had on a blue great coat, light coloured ditto under it, green jacket, and linen trowsers. Whoever takes up the real thief so that he may be brought to justice, and secures the Watch for the owner, shall have for the Watch only SIX DOLLARS, and for the thief FOUR DOLLARS, with reasonable charges, paid by
 3 w * **THOMAS PLATT.**

pecially when we consider, that many among them are covered with grey hairs—are persons who have spent the prime of their days in the virtuous discharge of their several duties, as christians and fellow citizens: that many among them are widows, with large families of children, who they are endeavouring to bring up in a decent and reputable way, in order to render them useful and honourable members of society.

Are not the monied part of the community, from the nature of the times, likely to be sufficiently injured, without the assistance of government? Are we not all alarmed at the amazing fall of cash? Had A, for instance, sold B three horses two years ago, at thirty pounds a-piece, and taken his bond for the money, payable at this time; one of these horses, according to the general rise of things (or fall of cash which is the same thing) would now completely pay that debt. And shall A, out of the interest of this poor pittance, be obliged to pay tax to ease B's pocket and the pockets of others, who are in like manner taking advantage of the times, and raising estates out of the ruins of their neighbours? Is it not sufficient that individuals are thus endeavouring to ruin individuals? Or would it really redound to the honour of government, to have a hand in completing the iniquity?

Here, perhaps, you will say, that as continental loan-offices are now open, and as the certificates bear an interest of six per cent per annum, were they to be exempted from taxes, as proposed by some, the monied part of the community might turn their cash into that channel, and not only escape the tax, but, in a great degree, relieve themselves from the losses and distress I have mentioned. But then you will consider, that this remedy would be exceedingly partial; to say nothing of the total uncertainty of its continuance. It is not to be supposed that one tenth, nor perhaps a twentieth part of those who depend upon the interest of their money for a living, and who are well affected to the government, would, or indeed could, without great inconvenience, have recourse to it. And those that would be most likely to avail themselves of the privilege, are generally such as stand least in need of it. The more particular defects of the remedy however, it might perhaps, at this time, be improper to set forth. I shall therefore dismiss the subject for the present.

It is said by some, that a law for taxing bonds and bills would be popular. And perhaps it might. But then would not a law for dividing the wealth of the state equally among the inhabitants, be full as popular, or perhaps more so? Only let the thought on foot, and take a little pains to blow it about, and you would soon have legions of advocates for it. An estate of one hundred thousand pounds, would make a hundred beggars smack their lips. This would be levelling with a witness. But then however popular it might be, I dare say numbers of those who would fain support the former scheme on its popular ground, would instantly reprobate the argument, was it to be advanced in favour of the latter. The former is levelled at one part of the community—the latter would be levelled at another also; which, you know, might make great odds.

With regard to the real merit of the two schemes, it may perhaps be hard to determine which would excel. As levying a two-fold tax on one part of the property of the state, and not on the other, would have an appearance of great partiality; some perhaps, who value an equal administration, would think the former least entitled to merit; others, apprehending they should lose most by a division of estates, would probably judge the latter to be least meritorious. This, however, may be said in favour of the latter, that the former will not bear; it would, for a time, relieve the state from paupers.

But however absurd taxing money at interest (as it is termed) may appear when fully considered, there is something in it, that at first view seems very plausible. Hence some well-meaning men, who have considered the matter too superficially, are warm advocates for the measure. And the arguments commonly advanced in support of it, are well calculated to take with the populace—to mislead the unwary and inconsiderate part of the people; who are usually well pleased with a scheme or an argument, provided it has one fair side.

In the course of our debates upon this subject, I have heard it said to be unjust that any one man, who has three times the income of another, should pay less tax than that other pays. And did he who has that largest income, possess the property out of which it rises, the remark would be just; but when that property is in the hands of others, as farms leased, and money let, and there pays tax, the case is evidently otherwise. A man may have property in the hands of other people, to the amount of a million, and the possessors of that property may have it on such easy terms, that they can better afford to pay tax for it than the proprietor. In which case, although the proprietor should draw from those who possess his property, ten thousand pounds per annum, and pay no other than a common poll-tax, there would not be even the shadow of injustice in it. He having

enabled the possessors of his property to pay tax for it in his stead, their paying the tax must be evidently just; and was he to be taxed for it also, or for its value, that would be as evidently unjust. It might, however, gratify those amongst us who behold their superiors in life with an envious eye, and right or wrong, would gladly drag them down to a level with themselves. But this levelling spirit should never be indulged. It is always dangerous in civil society—always destructive of order and government.

Were all men so generous as to let their money on the easy terms I have mentioned, there would be no need of laws for regulating of interest. Every lender of money would be so moderate in his demands, as to enable the borrower to pay tax for the property whilst it remained in his hands. But as mankind in general are more influenced by the love of gain, than by any feelings of generosity, or principles of justice, were they left to bargain for themselves, with regard to the interest they should receive, many would exceed that moderation which I have mentioned. Laws were therefore found to be necessary to check their demands, and keep them within the bounds of equity and justice. And if the laws of this state, as they now stand, allow the lenders of money too great a latitude, let them be altered. If an interest of seven per cent per annum is too high, let it, as I said before, be reduced. But let it never be said, that New-Jersey has a law for peeping into old womens drawers and cakeets, to discover the frivolous amount of their bonds and bills.

Thus, in obedience to your command, I have sent you a few of my thoughts respecting our new scheme: and I wish I had had a little more leisure, that I might have done the subject more justice, and sent you them thoughts in a little better dress. Your good judgment, however, will enable you to take up the hints I have dropt, and, at your leisure, pursue the arguments to their fullest extent; and I am sure your good nature, will readily excuse any defect on my part.

I remain with the greatest esteem, &c.

P. S. If once in judgment fir yo've err'd:

If others once yo've taught to stray;

'Twill learn you how to feel for those

Who judge at random ev'ry day.

But from that error now recede:

'Tis great—'tis good to own a fault:

Returning sinners grace obtain;

And candour does the mind exalt.

'Tis grow'ling souls alone that spurn

Conviction and resolve to stray;

That fullen on in error press,

When truth unfolds a better way.

The noble mind with doubts oppress'd,

Exults and glories in relief;

Joyous steps from wrong to right,

And thanks you for the new belief.

But why those hints? your mind disdains

A thought so guilty and so low,

As not to catch truth on the wing,

Whether she came from friend or foe.

Peace to all such, and wisdom too:

And may my soul with theirs unite,

Explore the ways from error free,

And easy move from wrong to right.

To whom it may concern:

THE boat or vessel known by the name of LEWIS'S MILL BOAT, which was lately condemned by a court of admiralty in the State of New-Jersey, and sold by Public Vendue in the city of Burlington, was in September last employed in the continental service for carrying cloathing from Philadelphia to Trenton, and from thence was ordered by the commissaries to return with publick stores to that city, calling at Bristol for further directions; but by the villainy of the skipper the vessel was run into a dock in Philadelphia on the 26th September last (the day on which the enemy arrived there) from whence she was taken an hour or two afterwards by a party of Gloucester county militia, together with all the publick stores (having no other goods) on board, which stores were also condemned for the use of the captors.

The above is a true state of facts as they appeared on the trial.

2 w * BOWES REED, PRO. REC.

February 18, 1778.

Trenton, Feb. 9, 1778.

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons capable of driving a team, who are willing to enlist for carters in the continental army, to serve for three years; that they shall have twenty dollars bounty, six pounds per month from the time of their enlistment, a suit of new clothes every year, and a great coat (if possible) and shoes or boots, by their producing a certificate from their waggon-master of their good behaviour. All persons willing to enlist on the above terms, are desired to apply to me at my quarters in Trenton.

3 w SAMUEL H. SULLIVAN, D. Q. M. G.

FORTY DOLLARS REWARD.

RAN AWAY from the subscriber, at Trenton, NICHOLAS PECK, an indented servant, about 18 years of age, dark complexion, marked with the small-pox, about five feet high: Had on, when he went away, a striped linsley coat and jacket, buckskin breeches, a pair of plated buckles and beaver hat. He was spoke with on the road to Philadelphia, said he was going there, and to Headquarters to enlist. As there are a number of officers belonging to the army acquainted with the aforesaid Nicholas Peck, it is hoped that none will enlist him, I having the honour to serve them as superintendant of cattle to the light-horse.

3 w * ADAM AULBERGER.

Burlington, February 16, 1778.

TO BE SOLD,

A TRACT of 418 acres of unimproved land, situate in the township of Roxborough, and county of Morris, lying between the head of the Little Pond and Andover Forge, adjoining on the west side of the line run by John Lawrence for the division between East and West Jersey, and adjoining land of Daniel Smith, and land surveyed to John Reading, Esquire.

The tract is well watered and timbered, with several pieces of natural meadow thereon. For further particulars inquire of

3 w † WILLIAM HEULINGS.

WHEREAS fundry persons, upon various pretences, have made a practice of going from this city and county into the city of Philadelphia, whereby much injury has and still may accrue to the state of New-Jersey contrary to the tenor of an act of assembly of said state strictly prohibiting any intercourse with the city whilst in the possession of the enemy: This is therefore to give notice that the magistrates of said county are determined to put in execution the aforesaid law with the utmost rigour; and if any person or persons, be their pretences what they may, shall be detected in an attempt to go into the city of Philadelphia, or shall go into and return again from said city, they may depend upon incurring the penalties in said law specified, unless such person or persons can produce a pass or license from His Excellency General Washington, or some other person authorized by law for so doing.

By order of the court,

City of Burlington, } FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Clerk.
Feb. Term, 1778. }

TO BE SOLD,

By way of public vendue, on the premises, Tuesday the 24th of March next,

A Certain CRIST MILL and LOT of LAND adjoining, situate at Horner's-Town, in the township of Upper Freehold, and county of Monmouth, late the property of James Nealan, and sold by virtue of a writ of attachment, issued out of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the said county of Monmouth, against the goods, chattels, rights and credits of the said James Nealan, at the suit of Thomas Emley. The vendue to begin at 11 o'clock, when attendance will be given by

4 w * ABRAHAM HENDRICKS, } Auditors.
PETER IMLAY, }

February 2, 1778.

TO BE SOLD,

By public vendue on Monday the 2d day of March, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon on the premises,

A N elegant COUNTRY-SEAT in Bucks county, fourteen miles from Philadelphia, containing one hundred and eight acres, bounding on the river Delaware and on Bristol road, with as elegant a house as any in the county, two barns, stables, and all kind of out houses well built and partly new; there are about twenty acres of meadow, and wood in proportion to the place, an old orchard of good common fruit, a young orchard of the best grafted fruit been planted about six years, a great variety of pear trees, peach trees, plumb trees, and cherry trees, all grafted of the best fruit: The whole plantation is fenced with red cedar posts and white cedar rails; there is a front on the river of one hundred rods, and the house on a fine eminence about twenty rod from the river, in a genteel neighbourhood and remarkably healthy.

On the same day will be sold, all the stock, household goods, and farming utensils; consisting of cows, horses, sheep, hogs, hay, wheat, rye, Indian corn, buck-wheat, potatoes, grain in the ground, and a number of other things too tedious to insert. The place will be struck off precisely at three o'clock, that the purchaser, if he chuses, may have an opportunity of buying any of the stock or other articles. The condition of sale will be made known on the day, and attendance given by the subscriber, who lives on the place. Any gentleman that has a mind to purchase the place, I shall be ready to shew it to him any time before the day of sale.

4 w † JOSEPH PENROSE.