

NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1777.

To the PRINTER of the NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

SIR,
A FRENCH Gentleman has lately favoured me with a sight of a collection of historical and political Letters to his friends in France. I have obtained consent to translate and publish a few of them. If following translation of one of them, which is of a modern date, should prove acceptable to your readers, I will send you some more. The author of them has been two years in America, and has been introduced to first characters on the Continent. His real name will be a secret—The name by which he has chosen to be known to the public, will be seen in the conclusion of the enclosed letter.

From yours,
H. P.

Fish-Kill, in the State of New-York, Nov. 20, 1777.

MY DEAR COUNT,

IN my last letter I informed you that General Gates was ordered, by the Congress, to return to take the command of the Northward Army. This appointment was the more honourable, as twelve out of thirteen of the States concurred in it. The clamours of the people, who govern their rulers in this country, could not be resisted, and private prejudices were made to yield to the general safety and honour of America.

The joy of the Northern Army, upon General Gates's arrival among them, cannot be described. He had gained their confidence by his services among them the two preceding campaigns. He was, like themselves, a zealous republican; and his only objects in taking part with them in the present war, were liberty and independance. He had endeared himself to them further, by the strictness of discipline which he had introduced among them the year before: For soldiers are always best satisfied with officers who lead them readily to their duty, provided they part with them of all the toils and dangers of the military life.

The success of General Stark, in defeating a large part of General Burgoyne's army, at Bennington, prepared the way for General Gates's future success, and proved the seed of all the laurels that he reaped during the campaign. You will see the particulars of this affair in the news-papers, which accompany this letter.

The first object with General Gates was to put his army in order. This was done in a few weeks; for he infused at once his own spirit into every corps among them. His general orders were short, but they were implicitly obeyed. He saw every thing with his own eyes, and heard every thing with his own ears. He slept but little, and was seldom absent from the morning and evening parade of his troops. He understood every part of the duty of an officer and soldier as well as of a general, for he had served the King of Great-Britain, during the greatest part of the two last wars with France, under some of the best Generals that Great-Britain ever sent into the field. His temper was naturally hasty, which sometimes led him to make use of passionate expressions in reproving his officers, but he was notwithstanding equally beloved and feared by them. I have been told, that he never had a single personal enemy under his command.

Not only the genius and character of this illustrious officer, but the abilities of several of his general officers, and the spirit of his troops, all concurred to afford a favourable preface of a successful campaign.

Lincoln and Arnold were his two Major-Generals, and Glover commanded a brigade in his army. The first served with reputation last year at the head of a body of Massachusetts militia: Genius and industry supplied, in some measure, the want of a military education; he was cool, determined, and enterprising. Arnold's character is already known in Europe. He is said to possess what we call, in our country, the "rage militaire." His countrymen accuse him of too much impetuosity. This may be the case in the cabinet; but I do not think he is too impetuous in the field. Glover served two campaigns under General Lee, and was a great favourite of that unfortunate officer. He is brave, and has the character of an excellent disciplinarian.

The spirit of General Gates's army cannot be too much commended. It was composed chiefly of the farmers and farmers sons, of the four Eastern States. Every man among them felt an enthusiastic attach-

ment to liberty, and the lowest sentinel fought alike with his General for all that was dear to him. The inhabitants of New-England are trained up, from their infancy, to civil, ecclesiastical, and domestic subordination. The transition from these, therefore, to military subordination, is short and natural. I have seen recruits that had been enlisted only for three weeks, handle their arms, and perform all the evolutions which are necessary in the kind of war that is carried on in this country, with as much dexterity as the King's guards at Versailles. They are a hardy race of men, and when kept in action, are not subject to camp diseases. They are in general sober and moral—drunkenness is unknown among them. And since the beginning of the war, there has been but one instance of a New-England man's deserting to the British army. He was caught and condemned to die, but was afterwards pardoned, upon discovering proofs of his being a lunatic.

The public papers will give you a particular account of two battles, fought on the 19th of September and the 7th of October, between the army under the command of General Gates, and the royal army under the command of General Burgoyne. The last was a complete victory on the side of the Americans. Every circumstance attended it that could flatter the military knowledge and conduct of General Gates. General Frazer, who added to the glory of the day by his fall, was esteemed one of the best officers in the British army. In this action General Arnold gained immortal honour—his horse received three wounds with bayonets in forcing the British lines; notwithstanding this, and the wound he received in his leg, which fractured the bone, he was the first that got within side of the enemy's breast-work.

But the glory of this victory was soon lost, in an event that has cast a shade upon all the victories that have been gained by both armies, since the commencement of the war. About a week after this battle, General Burgoyne surrendered himself and the remains of his whole army, with all their arms, camp equipage, &c. into the hands of General Gates. Can any thing be conceived of, more humiliating to the pride and power of Great-Britain?—An army of ten thousand men—consisting of veterans who had shared in all the glory of the late war in Germany and America—commanded by officers who had served under Wolfe and Ferdinand, and who had plucked laurels from the heights of Abraham and Minden, and headed by a General, rich in royal favour, and famous for having, by a single manœuvre, turned the fate of the last war between Spain and Portugal,—were defeated, surrounded, and at last reduced to the necessity of submitting to an army consisting of no more than twelve thousand men; one half of whom were militia, and the rest recruits of only five months standing. These disasters received a peculiar poignancy from the garrisonade with which General Burgoyne began his march from Ticonderoga. I sent you his proclamation in a former packet.

His letters to General Gates, you will perceive, are written in the same pompous style. But he had other acts of presumption and folly to recollect upon this occasion—He had promised, when he took leave of the House of Commons in the year 1775, to "temper his punishments of the Americans, for rebellion, with humanity"—He had boasted to his friends, that he "would dance the ladies, and coax the gentlemen into submission"—He had declared, upon entering the port of Boston, during the blockade of that town, that he would have "elbow-room;"—and as if he was resolved to shine hereafter, without a rival, in the history of the reduction of America, he had with great difficulty obtained his present separate command, by making two voyages to Great-Britain. Notwithstanding these things, he was received and treated with great politeness by General Gates, and the officers of his army—not a single insult was offered to him or his army, by the common soldiers. This behaviour is characteristic of the natural magnanimity of these people. It gave me pain to hear that when General Burgoyne entered the town of Albany, a mob cried out, "elbow-room!" but they were soon silenced by an officer. It is the only instance I have heard, since my arrival in this country, of an act of rudeness, even in the lowest of the people, to a British prisoner.

General Burgoyne speaks with great respect of the behaviour of the American troops, and all his officers

are astonished at the order and discipline of General Gates's army. The General is a sensible-bred man, and has cancelled his former animosity to the Americans, by concessions that show real dignity of soul.

What eulogiums can equal the merit of General Gates!—His successes are almost without a precedent in history. His glory is as yet unrivalled in the annals of America. But his mind has been accustomed to feed upon more substantial food than the acclamations of the multitude. He has destroyed one half the power of Britain in America. He has humbled the pride of the haughtiest nation in the world. He has given the people of America a confidence in their courage and resources, which can never be shaken by any future misfortune. He has taught the Americans that Britons are no longer irresistible in the field. He has showed the folly and danger of standing armies in the time of peace, by conquering a body of veterans with the militia of the country. He has shaken the counsels, and baffled the negotiations of Great-Britain, in all the courts of Europe. France and Spain must now throw off the mask. The Congress are not insensible of the important services of their General—They have voted him their thanks, and a gold medal. But no reward can equal his merit—The gratitude of posterity alone will be able to do justice to him.

I had like to have omitted one circumstance in the history of the convention between General Burgoyne and General Gates. Burgoyne expected every hour to be relieved by General Clinton, with a large body of troops from New-York. They had taken Fort Montgomery, and were within a few days march of Albany, where all Gates's stores and provisions were lodged. Fortunately the convention was signed before the news of Clinton's march reached General Burgoyne. Had it not been for this body of troops in General Gates's rear, he would have given Mr. Burgoyne less favourable terms of submission. Clinton fled back to New-York, as soon as he heard of the surrender of Burgoyne.

The royal army, as you will see by the papers now in the vicinity of Boston. The legislature of Massachusetts-Bay have wisely cut off all unnecessary intercourse between them and the inhabitants; leaving left the minds of the ignorant should be poisoned by them. In several of the American States there have been instances, where people well affected to the liberties of this country, have had their allegiances to the States shaken, by the falsehoods that have been propagated by British prisoners quartered among them.

Adieu my dear Count, and be assured of my best esteem with which I have the honour to be,

Your most affectionate friend and
Obedient servant,

DE LISLE

P. S. Embrace your brother for me. I shall write him in a few days, by a vessel that sails from Boston.

To the PRINTER of the NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE

SIR,

I AM afraid that while we are employed in furnishing our battalions with cloathing, we forget the county of Bergen, which alone is sufficient amply provide them with winter waistcoats and breeches from the redundance and superfluity of certain wolen habits, which are at present applied to no use whatsoever. It is well known that the rumsies in that part of our State pride themselves in an incredible number of petticoats; which, like their furniture, are displayed by way of ostentation many years before they are decreed to invest the bodies of the proprietors. Till that period they never worn, but neatly piled up on each side of the immense escrutoire, the top of which is decorated with a most capacious brass-clasped bible, to read. What I would, therefore, humbly propose to our superiors, is to make prize of those future habiliments, and, after proper transformation, immediately apply them to screen from the inclemency of the weather those gallant males, who are fighting for the liberties of their country. A clear this measure from every imputation of injustice I have only to observe, that the generality of the men in that county, having for above a century, worn the breeches; it is highly reasonable that they should now, and especially upon so important an occasion, make booty of the petticoats.

HORTENTIUS

WE learn from Algiers, that a Spanish slave who had enjoyed the confidence of the Dey for many years, had found means to take out of the treasury of that Prince, four chests filled with gold and silver, to the amount of upwards of three millions. Contrary winds prevented the departure of the ship on board which he embarked with the money, by which means he was taken, and hacked in pieces immediately.

LONDON, August 12.

Last week a cause was tried before Sir Geo. Hay, judge of the admiralty court, wherein Capt. Benjamin Hughes, of the Elizabeth letter of marque, was plaintiff, and William Greenwood, Esq. executor of Archibald Baird, Esq. late collector of the customs at George-Town, Winvaw, South-Carolina, defendant. The late Archibald Baird, Esq. when he was expelled that province for refusing to swear allegiance to the state of South-Carolina, embarked on board the Three Sisters, bound to some port in France, bringing with him nine casks of indigo, not for trade but for his present subsistence. The ship was taken by the Elizabeth, and the question was, whether the indigo fell under the description of the late act of parliament. It being a new point, and what may frequently occur, it was argued on both sides, when the judge decreed the nine casks of indigo to the defendant, declaring that they did not fall within either the letter or spirit of the late act. At the same time a sentence was decreed of two casks of indigo, to the Reverend Agnus Macauley, late a schoolmaster in Charlestown, who had been obliged to leave the province at the same time, and for the same reasons as Mr. Baird. The ship and rest of the cargo was condemned as legal prize to the captors.

October 2. In the late war, it was thought necessary to raise some troops in Virginia. At the same time, the present General Washington, by his indefatigable zeal for the service, raised a regiment called the Virginia Volunteers, which he commanded. Their activity and success were so remarkable, that the Reverend Mr. Davis, who preached a sermon, or rather delivered a panegyric on the occasion, in Virginia, on his speaking of Mr. Washington, who was their Colonel, made use of the following sentence: "As for that young man (WASHINGTON) his uncommon bravery, conduct, and knowledge in the art of war, at his age, is superior to what I ever read of; and he seems as if appointed by Providence to be hereafter the protector and deliverer of his country."

Extract of a letter from Mr. Israel Powley, dated at Cadix, September 8.

Last Friday an American privateer of twenty-six came into this bay, and lay too near three hours, in Don Carlos Hederitz, a Spanish Colonel, and other officers, embarked on board the above for Charlestown, and the privateer stood out to gain; and, setting all her sails, was soon out of sight.

Extract of a letter from Paris.

When Dr. Franklin appears abroad it is more a publick than a private gentleman, and the curiosity of the people to see him is so great, that he is to be followed by a genteel mob. A gentleman paid something for a place at a two days window to see him pass by in his coach, and the crowd was so great that he could but barely see him.

INTELLIGENCE EXTRAORDINARY.

WE are well assured that Dr. Franklin, whose knowledge in philosophical sciences is universally admired, and who has carried the powers of electricity to a greater length than any of his contemporaries, is about to produce an electrical machine, of wonderful force, that, instead of giving a slight shock to the elbows of fifty or an hundred thousand, who are joined hand in hand, it will give a violent shock even to nature herself, so as to disunite kingdoms, join islands to continents, and render men of the same nation frangers and enemies to each other; and that, by a certain chymical preparation of oil, he will be able to smooth the waves of the one part of the globe, and raise tempests and winds in another, so as to be universally acknowledged for the greatest physician, politician, mathematician, and philosopher, this day living.

CHARLESTOWN, (South-Carolina.) Oct. 7.

It is told, that three weeks ago, there were not more than 6 and 700 Americans (taken in vessels) confined in the gaols of Antigua, and they were treated with so little humanity, that they were making in all the French, Dutch, and Spanish Islands, in order to enable them to procure the necessaries of life.

Thursday arrived here a ship from France, with salt, in which came passenger (highly recommended by the Hon. Dr. Franklin, Mr. Deane, and others) M. de Bretigney, a French officer of distinction, who, animated with the same zeal to serve the glorious cause of America as has distinguished Marquis de la Fayette, has brought over at his

own expence, a chosen corps of experienced officers, to form a regiment of Chasseurs, together with 130 stand of choice arms, and as many genteel complete uniforms, to be presented to the regiment. Monsieur de Bretigney is styled Colonel; his Lieutenant Colonel is the Chevalier de Kerangues (who has been in most actions of note in Germany, since the year 1742) and his Major, Monsieur Milly.

Letters from France of the 21st of August, advise, that a son of Lord North had been in Bourdeaux a whole month, at the house of a Mr. Barton, and had suddenly departed on the 18th: That 12 ships of the line at Brest, and three more at Rochfort, had been fitted out with the utmost expedition to take in 12000 troops at the latter port: That 12000 more troops were to be embarked at Rochfort on the 26th, for which purpose a number of West-India ships of 500 tons had been taken into the King's service: That the clamour for war was so great in England, that the King seldom went abroad without being insulted; and the French ambassador in London had also received some gross insults; and that a war between France and Great-Britain seemed then inevitable. Yet another letter, dated August 23, says, that the preceding day, in consequence of orders from court, by an extra courier in 46 hours, all the American vessels at Bourdeaux had been searched, and every kind of warlike stores found on board, taken out and stored: But the writer concludes, "the Americans are not to be alarmed at this."

WILLIAMSBURG, December 12.

A vessel is arrived at Edenton, North-Carolina, from France, with about seventy thousand pounds worth of woollens, &c.

BOSTON, November 21.

We have only time to inform the public, that yesterday arrived here under an escort of American light dragoons, the Hon. JOHN HANCOCK, Esq. President of the American CONGRESS, and first Major-General of the militia of this State; by his coming into town sooner than was expected, he avoided some public marks of respect which would otherwise have been paid him; his arrival was made known by ringing the bells, the discharge of 13 cannon of Col. Craft's park of artillery on the common, the cannon on the fortrefs on Fort Hill and the shipping in the harbour—the independent and light infantry companies paid him their military salutes—He received the compliments of gentlemen of all orders; and every indication was given of the sense the public has of his important services to the American cause.

Dec. 14. Monday last the ship Hammond, Monsieur Sandis, commander, arrived at Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, from Marfeilles in France, with the following cargo, viz. 48 pieces of brass cannon, four pounders, with carriages complete. 19 nine inch mortars. 2500 bombs, nine inch. 2000 four pound balls. A quantity of intrenching tools. 3000 fuses. 1110 of another sort or quality (for dragoons). About 18000 weight of gun powder. 61051 weight of brimstone.

FISH-KILL, December 18.

On the 27th of Nov. General Putnam with the troops under his command, marched down towards King's-Bridge, with a view to draw out the enemy to battle; and for this purpose, he detached Colonel Meigs over the Brunx, near the Fort, with orders to retreat in such a manner, as would most probably draw the enemy out to the main body, posted advantageously about one mile distant. This was attempted by Col. Meigs, but the enemy cautiously avoided the danger, only sending a small party of rangers, who could not be drawn over the river; a skirmish ensued between this party of the enemy and Col. Meigs, in which they lost three men killed, about the same number wounded, and one or two made prisoners; Meigs had two men slightly wounded. The following night several small parties were sent down to alarm the enemy's camp, which they did, and turned them out in the severe storm and left them, bringing off Col. James Delancey, Mr. Ogilvie, a Lieutenant in Robinson's regiment, and four other prisoners. The posts at the Bridge are strongly fortified, but with a suitable force and preparations, may soon be reduced.

YORK-TOWN, December 13.

Extract of letter from General Gates, dated Albany, November 25, 1777.

SIR,

"BY this express I have the pleasure to send your Excellency the particulars of the enemy's retreat from Ticonderoga. Lieut. Col. Herrick, and the regiment of militia from New-Hampshire-Grants, under his command, have much merit, and deserve applause for their sensible and spirited behaviour, as well before as after the abandonment of that fortrefs. I am well pleased they got so large a booty from the enemy, which will be some recompense for the hardships which they must have suffered, the weather being remarkably severe."

Extract of a letter from Brigadier Gen. Powel, to Col. Herrick, or officer commanding at Pawlet.

SIR,

Mount Independence, Oct. 30, 1777.

"I was very much surpris'd three days ago, when informed that Capt. Allen, under the sanction of a white flag, without a drum or even a letter from you, had presumed to approach this garrison; but imputing it to ignorance of the rules of war, I have suffered him to return, after informing him that no more flags would be admitted under such trifling pretences. Notwithstanding which, Capt. Clark came here yesterday in the same unmilitary manner, and with still more trifling excuse.

"As I am determin'd not to admit any more flags of truce, unless upon occasions of real consequence, and properly attended, I send Ensign Crawford, of the King's royal regiment of New-York, to inform you of my resolution to look upon all such persons as spies, who approach the garrison in that very improper manner, and to treat them accordingly. Ensign Crawford returns with Captain Clark, which makes it unnecessary to send a drum with him."

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

H. WATSON POWEL, Brigadier-General.

Colonel HERRICK's answer to Brigadier-General POWEL's letter.

To the Honourable Brigadier-General Powel, commanding at Mount Independence.

SIR,

Pawlet, Nov. 1, 1777.

"By the time this comes to hand, I hope you will have recovered from the surpris with which you have been repeatedly affected since my correspondence with you. You impute my conduct to ignorance of the rules of war. I hope, Sir, I have not been guilty of ill-manners.

"If you please, Sir, I am ready to conclude the trifling correspondence with you, provided you will quit the ground immediately, on which you now pretend to teach me military rules; otherwise I shall endeavour to convince you, at the head of my Green Mountain Boys, that your dominion is but temporary."

I am, Sir, sincerely your most obedient servant.

SAMUEL HERRICK, Colonel Commandant.

Letter from Col. Herrick, to the President of the Council of the State of Vermont.

SIR,

Pawlet, Nov. 14, 1777.

"I have the pleasure to inform you, that the enemy have abandoned Ticonderoga, Mount Independence, &c. on Saturday last, after demolishing all the fortifications, bridges, burning all the houses, and destroying all stores, cannon, &c. which they could not bring off: Their retreat was precipitate in all respects, as appears by many circumstances.

"A few days before I was informed by deserters that their shipping and a number of boats were ordered for St. John's, who had orders to return immediately to fetch more loading. About that time I directed Capt. Ebenezer Allen, with 60 rangers, down to Lake Champlain, with orders to take two armed vessels by stratagem, and to secure what provisions, forage, &c. he could. Capt. Allen was joined by Capt. Lee at Rutland, and a considerable number of the inhabitants and hunters a few days after, which enlarged Capt. Allen's detachment to about 100 men. I suppose they had not yet recovered from the surpris, which my letter of Nov. 1. occasioned them, when Capt. Allen's detachment was discovered on the Lake a few days after, and being afraid that their retreat would be cut off at the Narrows, they immediately began their retreat on the 3d instant, and finished the whole on Saturday last.

"Major Wait is gone with 75 men to take possession and to secure the stores, cattle, horses, boats, if the enemy have left any. Capt. Allen is now harrassing the enemy's rear, endeavouring to take some scattering boats."

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL HERRICK.

IN COUNCIL, Bennington, Nov. 22, 1777.

Dear General,

"I have the pleasure to inform you of the success of our Green Mountain Rangers in harrassing the enemy's rear, on their retreat from Ticonderoga; in which Capt. Ebenezer Allen, with 50 rangers, has taken 49 prisoners, upwards of 100 horses, 12 yoke of oxen, 4 cows, 3 of the enemy's boats, &c.

"Major Wait, who was sent to take possession of Mount Independence, found nothing of consequence, except several boats, which the enemy had sunk, in which there was some provisions. All the barracks, houses, and bridges were burnt, cannon, to the number of forty, broke and spiked up. He was so fortunate as to take one French sutler, with some rum, wine, brandy, &c. Beg your Honour's direction how to dispose of the prisoners. I have the honour to be, by order of Council,

Your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

THOMAS CHITTENDON, President.

The Hon. Major Gen. GATES.

Published by order of Congress,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

Extract of a letter from Williamsburg, (Virginia.)

"In hopes to throw in a body of men, which may enable General Washington to do something this winter, we have passed a bill to send him five thousand men immediately as volunteers, to serve six months after they join him."

Copy of a letter from the Rev. Mr. Samuel Kirkland, missionary and interpreter for the Six Nations; together with a message from the Six Nation Chiefs, to Major-General Gates, commanding the army of the United States in the Northern department, dated at Oneida, October 31, 1777.

To the honourable Major-General GATES, Commander in Chief of the Northern department of the United States.

S I R,

I Delivered your message to the Oneida sachems, informing them of the capture of Gen. Burgoyne and his whole army; and I presented the warriors your request, that a number of their best men, not exceeding thirty or forty, should immediately repair to Albany, where they would receive further directions. I also sent their head warrior with the belt of information to the Onondagoes, four days ago.—To each of the above you have the following replies.

From the SACHEMS of ONEIDA.

Brother Chief Warrior ARAHOCKTEA.

THIS is good news you have sent us—It is great news. You have taken the General and his army, who thought to march through all America with his army, making a wide road.—This is the fortune of war. Those who are too proud, are sometimes humbled.—It has proved true in this instance—and it is perfectly right. We thank God for what has taken place.

Brother, we sachems have nothing to say to the warriors.—We have given them up to the field.—They must act as they think wise.

Brother, we thank you for so speedily informing us of your conquest.—We wish you a succession of good fortune.

Sachnagarat, White Skins,
Ojeshatur, Grasshopper.

From the WARRIORS.

Brother,

WE rejoice greatly in your success.—It revives our minds. Two of our head warriors are abroad. Upon their return you shall immediately hear from us.—A few only at present accompany your messenger down to Albany.

Quideless, Peter,
Thagneghoris.

From the Onondago SACHEMS and WARRIORS.

Brother Arahocktea,

WE have heard your voice.—Your belt has come in good time, and brings good news.—

Brother, we congratulate you upon the extraordinary success of your army. Your enemy, once very strong in that quarter, are now subdued.—This is matter of great rejoicing. Indeed we have long expected it would be his fate, as he talked very proudly amongst all the Indians, and told what he would do to the Americans.—He despised them. The army he sent against Fort Schuyler spake very insolently.—Quite too proud.—"That they would trample all down before them, and at first sight of them the fort would vanish"—but now the proud are brought low! this is right.

Brother, we send your belt of intelligence forward to the Cayugas and Senecas.—We hope its influence will be very extensive.—We expect it will soon reach Niagara.

Brother, the great God has brought about this happy revolution, as you observed in your speech to us. We must all ascribe the honour, the wisdom and victory to HIM.

Brother, we wish you a continuation of success.—
Farewell. YEHRGWEAHTEN.

Published by order of Congress.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

By private letters we are informed, that General Howe has ordered fortifications to be erected at the extreme end of the Narrows, on Staten-Island, which seems to indicate a war with France.

LANCASTER, December 17.

By a gentleman who arrived here yesterday from Jamaica, but last from Cape Nicholas Mole, we learn, that 12,000 men had arrived at the Havannah, and that every thing wore the appearance of an immediate war with Great-Britain. This gentleman says, that in Jamaica sugar sold for nineteen shillings per hundred, and Jamaica rum at one shilling and tenpence per gallon.

Extract of a letter from East Bradford, Chester County, December 12, 1777.

"I this day went down to Haverford, and there found the most destructive piece of work I ever saw.—Your brother Anthony Morris's house and place is robbed of every thing the mercilefs wretches (the

English) could take away. They have not even left them or the children any thing of food, neither bed or blanket, or any clothing, except what they had on their backs.—Every thing of his, your's, and your father's, they could not take off, they took care to destroy; and what is worse, Anthony is wounded, but I hope not mortally: The English light-horse overtook him about a mile from home, with a party of our troop, who were obliged to retreat; they pursued, caught him and wounded him in fifteen different places. All the fingers of one hand are nearly cut off, and the rest are so bad that Dr. Morris was obliged to take one off; his upper lip is split, a piece cut out of his nose, both cheeks cut, after which they robbed him of his horse and money. The officer then left the five who had attack'd him, told them to split the damn'd rebel down, and then follow him; after they had given him several wounds on the head, some of which went through his skull, they left him, and he crept down to one Weiss's, where he now lies; his wife is with him, and in great distress, not having any thing to assist him with. I have left them money, but it is of no service, every neighbour being in the same situation with themselves. Farr has taken three of the children to his mother's. He is in fine spirits, and I hope there is no danger. I would be glad Mrs. Morris would send me some linen, &c. for them and the children; do send them, for they have not any change of clothes till they receive them.
"The devils have gone to Philadelphia."

BURLINGTON, Dec. 31.

His Excellency the Governor, having signified his willingness to deposit, for the use and convenience of the people, a competent number of blank commissions for militia officers, with such persons in the respective counties (to be filled up and delivered upon producing to them the proper certificates) as should be approved of by the Resolution of both Houses; and both Houses having resolved that His Excellency be desired to deposit such commissions with the Clerks of the several counties in this State; the Captains and Subalterns of our militia are therefore directed to apply for their commissions, to the Clerks of the respective counties in which they reside, producing to them a certificate of their election signed by the clerk of the company, or, for want of a clerk, by the Colonel of the regiment to which the company belongs.

The next Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, for the county of Middlesex, is appointed to be held at New-Brunswick, on the third Tuesday of January next.

His Excellency THOMAS WHARTON, Jun. Esq. is re-elected President, and the Honourable GEORGE BRYAN, Esq. Vice-President, of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

We hear that a few weeks ago died at Wilmington, in the Delaware State, ELIZABETH SHIPLEY and ESTHER WHITE, both of whom were eminent public Friends.

Since our last we learn, that a great part of the British army, on Sunday last night, crossed the Schuylkill, and have posted themselves on the heights of Derby, half way between Philadelphia and Chester.—That several skirmishes have happened between their scouting parties and ours; in which the former are said to be considerable looters; but the particulars are not yet come to hand.

For two days past the weather has been so intensely cold, that the Delaware, opposite this city, is frozen over.

* * * The Pieces signed HORTENTIUS and CATO, and another of Mons. DE LISLE's Letters, are come to Hand, and will be properly attended to.

Just published, and ready to be delivered to the MEMBERS of the LEGISLATURE,

THE ACTS, passed at the late sittings of General Assembly, at Haddonfield and Princeton, from September 20, to October 11, 1777.

N. B. A few copies of the above acts are to be sold by the printer hereof.

W A N T E D,
A quantity of good clean LAMPBLACK.

Any person having it for sale, is requested to inform the printer hereof.

Just published and now selling by JOHN DUNLAP, At his Printing-Office in Queen-street, Lancaster, FATHER ABRAHAM'S ALMANACK, For the Year of our Lord, 1778.

†† Our customers are requested to observe, that the ingenious David Rittenhouse, A. M. has favoured us with the astronomical calculations of our almanack for this year, therefore they may be most firmly relied on.

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.

4 w *

November 26, 1777.

WAS STOLEN,

From the subscriber, living in Salem, West New-Jersey, on Tuesday the 18th of this instant:

A GREY gelding, saddle and bridle: The horse six years old, about fifteen hands high, trots, paces, and canters well, marked about the head with a number of black spots, one remarkably large under his near eye, has a small nick in the back edge of each of his ears. Any person who will secure the horse and thief, so that the owner may have the horse, and the thief be brought to justice, shall receive a reward of TWENTY POUNDS, for the horse only Ten Pounds.

EBENEZER HOWELL.

6 w *

November 20, 1777.

FIVE POUNDS REWARD.

WAS lost on Thursday the 13th instant, between Bristol and Newtown, in the county of Bucks, a double cased silver WATCH, maker's name Benjamin Lamb, London, the number forgotten, marked II in a double cypher on the back of the outside case, the cypher somewhat worn, has a ribbon string, a brass key much worn, and a small red Cornelian seal set in silver, with the compass and square in the silver work. Whoever finds the same, and will leave it with Mr. Robert Ramsey in Newtown, Mr. Bessonet in Bristol, Mr. Isaac Wood in Mountholly, or with the printer of this paper, shall have the above reward.

N. B. If the person into whose possession it may come, should be so ungenerous as not to return to either of the above gentlemen, every watchmaker and others, are requested to endeavour to expose the villainy.

6 w * t b c

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

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

December 4, 1777.

TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.

RAN AWAY yesterday the third instant from the subscriber, living in Mountholly, a negro-man named QUASH, but may probably change it for YERRAH, by trade a cooper, about 26 years of age, 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, speaks plain: had on, and took with him, a London brown broadcloth lap coat not much worn, with white metal buttons, old whitish coloured ditto broken at the elbow; a pair of leather breeches much worn; a pair of ditto striped linen; two pair of striped trowsers; two tow shirts, one quite new; hat not much worn; two pair of shoes and of stockings, one white cotton, the other yarn red and white. It is thought he will endeavour to get to Philadelphia, or the American Camp, fond of the soldiery. Whoever takes up and sends him to his master, so that his master may get him, shall have the above reward and reasonable costs paid by

JOHN JON

N. B. As he has a large bundle with him, and without a pass, it is thought he will be easily detected. It is therefore earnestly requested of the American gentlemen, officers and soldiers, as they are frequently travelling, to use their utmost endeavours to apprehend him.

2 w * t f

New-Jersey Gazette

Dec. 31, 1777
p. 3

A N A C T

For regulating and limiting the prices of sundry articles of produce, manufacture and trade; and to prevent forestalling, regrating, and engrossing.

WHEREAS divers persons, influenced by motives unfriendly to the interest and well-being of their country, or by avarice or the love of unjust gain, do require, demand and receive unreasonable prices for sundry necessaries of life; and do also buy up and engross such of the said necessaries as, by the particular circumstances of the times, are rendered scarce and difficult to be obtained, with a view still farther to enhance their price, to the grievous oppression of the poor, distress of the army, and general detriment of the community. AND WHEREAS the Honourable the Congress of the United States have recommended to the legislatures of the said States, to form a general plan and scheme of prices throughout the whole union; and until this can be accomplished, have recommended that a temporary regulation be adopted;

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 from and after the publication of this act, the rates and prices of the following articles of produce, manufacture and trade, bought, sold, or exchanged in any part of this State, shall not exceed the sums to them severally annexed; that is to say,

Salt of home manufacture by the bushel, reckoning fifty-five pounds weight to the bushel, shall not exceed three pounds fifteen shillings at the works or place of manufacture, and six-pence by the bushel for every mile the same may be carried by land from the works or place of manufacture to any place of sale or consumption, for profit and carriage.

Bloomary bar-iron shall not exceed three pounds by the hundred weight; and

Refined bar-iron shall not exceed three pounds ten shillings by the hundred weight.

Pig metal shall not exceed twenty shillings by the hundred weight.

The price of rolling iron shall not exceed thirty pounds by the ton.

Open castings shall not exceed eight-pence by the pound.

Raw hides shall not exceed seven-pence by the pound.

Soal leather shall not exceed three shillings by the pound.

Upper leather shall not exceed five shillings by the pound.

Men's neat-leather shoes, of the common sort, shall not exceed seventeen shillings and six-pence by the pair; and other shoes in proportion, according to their quality.

Women's shoes of the same kind, shall not exceed fifteen shillings by the pair; and others in proportion, according to their quality.

Wheat shall not exceed twelve shillings by the bushel.

Oats shall not exceed nine shillings by the bushel.

Indian corn shall not exceed seven shillings and six-pence by the bushel.

Buck-wheat shall not exceed five shillings by the bushel.

Wheat-flour shall not exceed thirty-three shillings by the hundred weight.

Hay, of the first crop and best quality, shall not exceed seven pounds ten shillings by the ton.

Best hay, of the second crop, shall not exceed six pounds by the ton.

Peas shall not exceed nine-pence by the pound.

Beans shall not exceed eight-pence by the pound.

Potatoes shall not exceed four shillings by the bushel.

Wool shall not exceed four shillings by the pound.

Flax shall not exceed two shillings by the pound.

Cyder-spirits shall not exceed twelve shillings by the gallon.

Spirits distilled from grain shall not exceed ten shillings by the gallon.

Butter shall not exceed two shillings and six-pence by the pound.

Cheese shall not exceed one shilling and six-pence by the pound.

Rates and prices of farming-labour, and the mechanics, tradesmen and handicraftsmen, shall not exceed double what they were in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

WHEREAS, from the present danger and necessity of importation, the prices of foreign commodities brought into this State cannot be ascertained and limited, in like manner as those of the produce of the State; but it is nevertheless just and necessary to restrain those who import from the importers, or others, from demanding unreasonable and extortionate profits there-

on: THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That for all sugar imported or brought into this State, there shall be allowed ten per cent. profit to the persons who shall purchase from the importers, and ten per cent. profit for every hundred miles the same may be removed from the first port of delivery, and so in proportion for other distances; and also at the rate of one shilling by the hundred weight for every five miles it may be carried by land, from the first port of delivery, to any place of sale or consumption.

For all molasses imported or brought into this State, ten per cent. profit to the persons who shall purchase from the importers, and ten per cent. profit for every hundred miles the same may be removed from the first port of delivery, and so in proportion for other distances; and also at the rate of one penny by the gallon, for every five miles the same may be carried by land, from the first port of delivery, to any place of sale or consumption.

For all salt imported or brought into this State, fifteen per cent. profit to the persons who shall purchase from the importers, and fifteen per cent. profit for every hundred miles the same may be removed from the first port of delivery, and so in proportion for other distances; and also at the rate of three-pence by the bushel for every mile the same may be carried by land, from the first port of delivery, to any place of sale or consumption.

3. AND BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That each and every vender of any of the articles herein before mentioned, upon the carriage of which allowance is made, shall, previous to his exposing the same to sale, repair to some Justice of the Peace of the county in which he proposes to make such sale, and produce to him authentic invoices, bills of parcels, or accounts of purchase of the said articles, the truth and authenticity of which he shall prove by oath or affirmation; and the said Justice shall thereupon deliver to the person so making oath, a certificate specifying the price at which he is entitled by law to sell the same: And if any person or persons shall offer to make sale of any of the said articles, without having first obtained such certificate, he shall, for each offence, be liable to a penalty of six pounds and the forfeiture of the said goods, or their value, to be recovered by any person who will sue for the same; one half to the prosecutor, and the other half to the poor of the township, ward, or precinct where the offence is committed, with costs of suit.

4. AND BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall ask, require, or demand a higher rate or price for any of the articles herein before enumerated, than that which is thereto annexed or limited, he or she shall, for each offence, forfeit the sum of six pounds together with the goods, for which a higher price than that herein specified shall be asked, required, or demanded, to be recovered before any Justice of the Peace of the county where the offender may reside; one half to the prosecutor, and the other half to the use of the poor of the township.

5. AND WHEREAS many inhabitants of this State, inimical thereto, have from time to time, in order to distress their country and forward the designs of the enemies thereof, been guilty of the shameful practice of engrossing and with-holding from those who are in want, sundry necessaries of life, and of utterly refusing to sell the same, though possessed of more than their own consumption required; BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That if any person having more of any article or articles herein before mentioned, than what may be necessary for his or her family's annual consumption, or for carrying on his or her trade and occupation, shall refuse to sell the overplus or a fourth part thereof, to any person who is in want of the same for his or her family's subsistence, support and use, or shall refuse to sell the said overplus or a requisite part thereof to any person properly authorized to purchase for the use of the army of the United States, or any detachment thereof; the person desirous to purchase shall apply to any Justice of the Peace of the county wherein the person refusing resides, which Justice being fully informed and convinced of the want and necessity under which the said applicant labours, shall summon the person, so refusing, to appear before him at a time fixed; and if, on lawful notice, he or she so refusing as aforesaid, shall not appear, or if on his or her appearance and examination it shall be evident to the said Justice, that he or she is possessed of a greater quantity of any of the said articles than is necessary as aforesaid, the said Justice shall issue his warrant to any constable of the county, and where there is no constable, to any subaltern military officer, commanding him to call to his assistance such and so many persons as may be necessary, and take such proportion of the overplus aforesaid, as may be required for the supply of the person complaining;

which goods shall be sold to the said complainant, and the money, after deducting six-pence for the warrant and five shillings for the constable or person officiating in his room, with other necessary and reasonable expences, shall be lodged in the hands of the said Justice, to be by him delivered to the owner when he shall apply for the same: And if the owner of the said goods shall neglect to apply for the said money by the space of one month, after the same is so lodged in the hands of the Justice, it shall be forfeited to the use of the State, and paid by the said Justice to the collector of the county to be by him paid into the publick treasury; and the receipt of the collector shall discharge the said Justice from the money so paid, and for-ever bar the owner, so neglecting, from any action, suit, or claim, for the recovery thereof.

6. PROVIDED ALWAYS, that neither this act nor any clause or thing therein contained, shall be taken or construed to alter or make void any contract, bargain, or sale, already entered into or agreed upon, or to operate to the prejudice of any vender whose goods have been delivered; and payment remains to be made.

Passed at Princeton, Dec. 11, 1777.

JOHN HART, Speaker.

December 19, 1777.

To all whom it may concern.

State of New-Jersey, &c.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a Court of Admiralty will be held at Mountholly, at the house of Zachariah Rossel, on Saturday the tenth day of January next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of the same day; then and there to try the truth of the facts alledged in the bill of Colonel Samuel Dick, (who as well, &c.) against the sloop or vessel called PATTY, her tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo, burthen about fifty tons, lately commanded by Tunis Mountaine:—To the end and intent that the owner or owners of the said sloop and her cargo, 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 bill.

By order of the Judge,

BOWES REED, PRO. REG.

In the Press, and speedily will be Published,

THE BURLINGTON

A L M A N A C K,

For the Year of our Lord, 1778.

LAMP, TANNERS,

AND

S P E R M A C E T I O I L,

To be sold by

THOMAS BUDD, JUN.

At Julia-Town, in Burlington County, New-Jersey.

December 24th, 1777.

TO BE SOLD,

A VERY good scale beam, ropes and scale dishes all fit for immediate use, together with eight fifty-sixes, two twenty-eights, and one fourteen pound weights. Any person inclining to purchase the above, may view the same and know the price, by applying to the printer hereof. 2w*

S U G A R,

SHOEMAKERS TOOLS, HALTERS,

PLOUGH-LINES, BED-LACINGS,

GUN FLINTS AND BUCK SHOT,

With a general assortment of

FISHING TACKLE;

ALSO

H E E L S AND L A S T S,

SOLD BY

EDWARD POLE,

Opposite the Lower Market, Burlington. 4w*

A GOOD PRICE AND READY MONEY,

Is given by the Printer hereof, for

CLEAN LINEN RAGS,

AND

H O G S B R I S T L E S.

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.