

NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1777.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY
WILLIAM LIVINGSTON, Esq.
*Governor, Captain-General and Commander in Chief,
in and over the State of New-Jersey, and Territories
thereunto belonging, Chancellor and Ordinary
in the same.*

IT is his Excellency's order, that every Captain or Commanding Officer in the militia of this State, do forthwith make a return of the number of men in his company, and of their accoutrements and ammunition, to the Colonel or Commanding Officer of the regiment to which he belongs: And that every Colonel or Commanding Officer of any regiment belonging to the brigades of General Heard and Winds, make return of the condition of his regiment to the Brigadier General of the brigade to which he belongs; which Brigadiers are, with all convenient speed, to make return of the condition of their respective brigades, to the Commander in Chief of this State; and that every Colonel or Commanding Officer of a regiment belonging to the brigades of General Forman and Newcomb, make return of the condition of his regiment to the said Commander in Chief.

Given under my hand at Princeton, the thirteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven.

WIL. LIVINGSTON.

By His Excellency's command,
William Livingston, jun. Secy.

Abstract of an act, intitled, An act for regulating and limiting the prices of sundry articles of produce, manufacture, and trade; and to prevent forestalling, regrating, and engrossing.

BE IT ENACTED, &c. 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, 55lb. to the bushel, £ 3 15 0 at the works, and 6d per bushel for every mile of land carriage to the place of sale or consumption, for profit and carriage. Bloomary bar-iron, sixty shillings per cwt; refined ditto, seventy shillings; pig-metal, twenty shillings; rolling of iron, thirty pounds per ton; open castings, eight-pence per lb. Raw hides, seven-pence per lb; foal leather, three shillings per lb; upper leather, five shillings per lb; men's neat leather shoes, common fort seventeen shillings and six-pence, and so in proportion; women's neat leather ditto, common fort fourteen shillings, and so in proportion. Wheat, twelve shillings per bushel; Rye, nine shillings; Indian corn, seven shillings and six-pence; oats, five shillings; buckwheat, six shillings; wheat flour, thirty-three shillings per cwt. Hay, first crop, best, seven pounds ten shillings per ton; ditto, second-crop, best, six pounds. Pork, nine-pence per lb; beef, eight-pence per lb. Potatoes, four shillings per bushel. Wool, four shillings per lb; flax, two shillings. Cyder spirits, twelve shillings per gallon; grain spirits, ten shillings per gallon. Butter, two shillings and six-pence per lb; cheese, one shilling and six-pence.

Farming labour, and wages of mechanicks, tradesmen and handicraftsmen, double what they were in the year 1775.

Sugar, imported or brought into this State, ten per cent. profit to the purchaser from the importer, and ten per cent. profit for every 100 miles from the first port of delivery, and so in proportion; and one and a half per cent. for every five miles carried by land from the first port of delivery. Molasses, ten per cent. profit, and ten per cent. for every 100 miles, and one penny per gallon for every five miles as above.

Salt, imported or brought into the State, fifteen per cent. profit to the purchaser from the importer, and fifteen per cent. profit for every 100 miles, and three-pence per bushel per mile, land carriage, from the first port of delivery.

Every vender of any article, on which allowance is made for carriage, shall, previous to his exposing to sale, produce to a Justice authentic invoices, of parcels, or accounts of purchase, and swear the truth; and the Justice shall thereupon deliver a certificate, specifying the prices at which he is allowed to sell.—Penalty for offering to make sale

without such certificate, six pounds and the goods or the value of them; half to the prosecutor and half to the poor, to be recovered before a Justice.

Any person who shall ask, demand, or require a higher price for any article than herein mentioned, [this goes to the whole bill] than the prices limited, shall forfeit six pounds and the goods; to be recovered and applied as afore said.

Any person having more of any of the articles mentioned, than is necessary for his family's annual consumption, or for carrying on his trade or occupation, refusing to sell the overplus or a suitable part of the same, to any person in want for family use, or for the use of the army; the person wanting it may apply to a Justice, who, being fully convinced of the want and necessity, shall summon the party to appear, and on refusal to appear, or if on appearing and examination, it shall appear evident to the Justice that there is such surplus, the Justice shall issue his warrant to a constable (or subaltern military officer if no constable) to take by force, calling assistance if necessary, such proportion of the overplus as is wanted, and lodge the money with the Justice; to be paid to the owner (deducting six-pence for the warrant and five shillings for the constable, &c.) if called for within one month; if not, to be forfeited to the State.

Not to affect former bargains or contracts.

Passed at Princeton, Dec. 10, 1777.

For the NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

MR. COLLINS,

IT is observable that at the opening of every campaign in the Spring, the British plunderers, and their Tory emissaries, announce the total reduction of America before the Winter. In the Fall they find themselves as remote from their purpose as they were in the Spring; and then they are threatened with innumerable hosts from Russia and Germany, who will utterly extirpate us the ensuing Summer, or reduce us to the most abject submission. They have so beat this beaten tract, that for the mere sake of variety, I would advise them to explore a new road; and not compel us to nauseate a falsehood, not only because we know it to be one, but for its perpetual repetition without the least variation or alternity. According to custom, therefore, the new lie (that is the old lie reiterated) for next Summer is, that we are to be devoured bones and all, by 36,000 Russians; besides something or other that is to be done to us by the King of Prussia. What this is to be, is still a profound secret; but as it will doubtless be something very extraordinary, and it being impossible to conceive what else he can do to us, after we are swallowed by the Russians, he is probably, by some political emetic or other, to bring us up again.—I should think, in common complaisance to human reason, that absurdities so gross, and figments so destitute of probability, could only deceive those who chuse to be deceived. The Empress of Russia, tho' a sovereign in petticoats, knows too well that the true riches of a nation consist in the number of its inhabitants, to suffer such a number of her subjects to be knocked in the head in America, for the sake of facilitating the frantic project of a more Southern Potentate in breeches, deluded by a blundering Ministry, and the universal derision of Europe. It is her interest (and I shall wonder if ever princes proceed upon any other principle, before the commencement of the millennium) to have America dismembered from Great-Britain, which must of necessity reduce the naval power of the latter, and make Russia a full match for her on the ocean. And as for the King of Prussia, considering that there never was any love lost between him and the family of Brunswick; and that he has long been jealous of the maritime strength of Britain, these artificers of fraud might with equal plausibility, have introduced the Emperor of Japan, as entering into leagues and alliances with our late master at St. James's. It is nothing but an impudent forgery from first to last, and merely fabricated to restore to their natural shape and features, the crest-fallen countenances of the Tories; and if possible, to intimidate the genuine Sons of America. The utmost they can do, they have already done; and are this moment as far from any prospect of subjecting us to the dominion of Britain, as they were in the ridiculous hour in which General Gage first arrived in Boston. This is no secret with those who have the management of their armies in America, how greatly

soever the nation itself may be deluded by the pompous accounts of their progress. But whatever becomes of Old England at last, these Gentlemen are sure of accumulating immense wealth during the war, and are therefore determined to keep up the delusion as long as possible. Burgoyne is the only one of any distinction, who has virtue enough to own the truth; and I am credibly informed, that he has frankly declared—That he was most egregiously deceived in the Americans—that he had been led to believe that they would never come to bayonetting—that they behaved with the greatest intrepidity, in attacking their enemies—that altho' a regiment of his grenadiers light infantry displayed, in an engagement with Morgan's battalion of rifle-men, the most astonishing gallantry, Morgan exceeded them in dexterity of generalship—and that it was utterly impossible to conquer America.

HORTENTIUS

IN CONGRESS, Nov. 4, 1777

RESOLVED, That the thanks of Congress be given to their own names, and in behalf of the inhabitants of the Thirteen United States, be presented to Major General GATES, Commander in Chief in the Southern department, and to Major Generals Lee and Arnold, and the rest of the officers and men under his command, for their brave and successful efforts in support of the independence of the country, whereby an army of the enemy of ten thousand men has been totally defeated, one large detachment of it, strongly posted and entrenched, having conquered at Bennington, another repulsed with and disgrace from Fort-Schuyler, and the main body of six thousand men, under Lieutenant General Burgoyne, after being beaten in different actions, driven from a formidable post and strong intrenchments, reduced to the necessity of surrendering themselves, upon terms honourable and advantageous to these States, on the 17th day of October to Major General Gates; and that a medal of gold be struck under the direction of the Board of War, in commemoration of this great event, and in testimony of these United States presented by the President to Major General Gates.

Resolved, That Congress have an high regard to the merit of Col. Greene, and the officers and men under his command, in their late gallant defence of the Fort at Red-Bank, on Delaware river; and that an elegant sword be provided by the Board, and presented to Col. Greene.

Resolved, That Congress have an high regard to the merit of Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, and the officers and men under his command, in their late defence of Fort Mifflin, on the river Delaware; and that an elegant sword be provided by the Board, and presented to Lieut. Col. Smith.

Resolved, That Congress have an high regard to the merit of Commodore Hazlewood, and the officers and men under his command, in their late defence of their country, against the British fleet, whereby two of their men of war were destroyed, and four others compelled to surrender; and that an elegant sword be provided by the Board, and presented to Commodore Hazlewood.

*Extract from the minutes
CHARLES THOMSON*

IN CONGRESS, November 2

Resolved, That whenever any expedition may be undertaken either by sea or land, at the expence of the United States, shall be executed; or whenever any important fortrefs, garrisoned and defended at the expence of the United States, shall be evacuated, or taken by an enemy, it be an established rule in Congress, that an inquiry into the causes of the failure, or into the loss of such post, or into the conduct of the principal officers conducting the expedition so taken by the enemy. The inquiry so conducted in such manner as Congress shall direct, adapted for the investigation of truth in all the above cases.

*Extract from the Minutes.
Published by order of Congress,
CHARLES THOMSON*

THOUGHTS on the present state of the ARMY; addressed to the MILITARY.

verum atque decens, curo et rogo et omnis, in hoc sum.

SHEDS the love of our native country, which ought to actuate every honest man; ambition and pride are the secondary principles that encourage us to endure every hardship necessarily attending the profession of a soldier, and to sacrifice even life for the attainment of those desirable ends. Doubtless the service of our country, considered abstractly and independent of subsequent contingencies, is a most honorable service; and with regret it may be remembered, that at the beginning of this war, our army consisted of men of property and popular influence, who entered into it from the most laudable and interested motives, who sacrificed every private view to the public good.—But, tempora mutantur—see men without education, without experience and without influence, advanced to the most important offices; looking upon the army as a resort for pensioners and placemen, whose regard for the prosperity of our cause is in exact proportion, and runs parallel with their rank and pay.

The very nature of this contest deprecates such a gravity of soul, and with justice it may be said, we are forced to make use of such engines,—*utere si nequeo superos, Acheronta movebo.*—Let us first take a view of the military line, and we shall find, that while some officers are in the field promoting the good of their country, and suffering fatigue and danger, others are in safe quarters, attending on their respective legislatures, promotions; in which they seldom fail of success. In the country village, in the vicinity of the camp, we shall find crowded with pot-valiant heroes and idle soldiers; yet of so little importance are they to every thing but the funds, that the service flourishes without them.

There are some, among a number of other causes, a dissatisfaction that prevails in the military line, such I mean as do their duty like men, and turn their backs upon the enemy. How few boys of yesterday's growth, raised to the command of veterans, who have distinguished themselves in war before these striplings were born: what is the efficient cause?—They have friends and a—y.—These veterans have nothing to commend them but the *stale, ineffectual* plea of *personal merit*, evidenced by their long and faithful services.

An officer in the army ought to be considered an *an of sense and courage*: Actual service is the test to prove this hypothesis; and by that alone to determine of his merit. It is a touchstone to make useful discriminations, by separating the *brave* and the *coward*, from the man of *sense* and *merit*; and until such alternative is proved, the officer has an undoubted right to rise according to his seniority.

The military line is the life of an army; and until subordination is fully established, the former will never flourish. Ignorance of military affairs, and a diffidence of their own importance, are the causes of this defection. The primary fault may be traced to that *stupid* contempt, with which inferior officers are treated by many of the duty superiors: Such improper conduct will discourage the efforts of a young soldier, and diminish the genius of every man of spirit.—And where *pitiful* despotism take its rise? In *ignorance*—they are void of politeness, and (unused to power) they are foolishly vain of their power.

Subalterns arrested, struck, and charged with pillaging fruit from an orchard; I have seen tried and acquitted with honour: the greatness of this non-entity in letting a god of power! that it was mutiny, to ask reparation. This, I aver, is a fault so far from existing in the British, is common in the armies of the most despotic monarchs. I have read an anecdote that happened at the surrender of Fort St. David, in the year 1758.—A subaltern being ordered by Monsieur Lally, the commanding officer, to embezzle some public stores.—At a court-martial he proved his innocence; and Monsieur Lally, conscious of his error, made full reparation to the army.

To a conduct the antipodes of justice may palliate, that the goddess of politeness (be such a deity in ancient mythology) is called upon us the light of her reconciling but has suffered us, like the Goths and Vandals, to work out our own salvation in the principles of primitive freedom.

I will make some observations on the Staff which our rulers have thought expedient to divide into so many departments, the utility of which, I refer the curious reader to the Pay-Master General's accounts. Simplicity and efficacy are certain requisites: Redundancy ought to be ever avoided: a great combination of powers impedes and eventually destroys the use of the structure. The same rule applies to military,

as well as civil government; by multiplying such offices, the business of the army is much perplexed, greatly retarded, and sometimes totally neglected. For, like true statesmen, none of these officers will deign to discharge the duty of their respective appointments, till it passes thro' an infinite series and concatenation of clerks, assistants, subs and deputies, and finally arrives at the *grand fountain head*; where, like a Nabob in his durbar, he vouchsafes to settle an account with as much pomposity, as a capitulation or a definitive treaty of peace; ceding and guaranteeing to a poor countryman the just equivalent only of his merchandize, taken for the use of the army.

The Quarter-Master General's department includes the Commissaries General of ordinance and hides; the Clothier, Forage, and Waggon-Masters General, with all their deputies and assistants; subtract these latter, and the business of the former is a vox et præterita nihil, a mere pensioned sine-cure, a nullity and an incumbrance on the public. To increase the chagrin and lessen the importance of the military, (for as we are under a Commonwealth, the levelling principle should extend even to the army, where nothing can be done without a proper subordination) every one of these staff gentlemen have a military title either given or assumed; and so great is their contempt for the army, and of so little importance are commissions, that few will accept of any rank under that of a Field-Officer. Not a fellow will shoe a horse or skin a beef, unless you flatter him with a *Captaincy* at least; and he who retails whiskey, and chops up provisions for the soldiers, must be dubb'd a *Colonel*. These are mortifying considerations to an officer who commands a regiment or a company, to be rank'd and parallel'd with those greasy money-making fellows. Take a view of our bitter enemies, the British army, and contrast their military police with our own; we all accede to this maxim, *fas est et ab hoste doceri*. Every staff-office in that service is generally filled by officers holding military command; there is no rank whatever affixed to those several posts independent of the military line, and consequently they cannot pretend to take precedence by virtue of such staff-appointments, only as their battalion commissions specify.

Adjutants General, Aids de Camp, and Majors of Brigade, may properly be called the *military staff*, because their duty is such; and should be officers taken out of the military line, who notwithstanding, ought to hold no new rank, having nothing to do but deliver and execute the orders of others, there is not the least necessity for such indulgence.

Rank implies pre-eminence, and commissions specify command: Therefore, when neither is the case, in consequence of such appointments, rank and titles are abstract ideas. Nevertheless we find in our army a number of unexperienced boys delegated to those important duties, taking rank accordingly, and rising in battalion equally with those in the regular line. Officers of sound judgment and great experience, are the only men proper to fill those active departments—the most fatal errors prove the truth of this observation.

The *civil staff* includes all the rest, and are never invested with rank only under the circumstances aforesaid. The Quarter Master General, in his line of duty, is so connected with the army, that none but a military man can discharge that trust with propriety, and therefore in most armies we find it occupied by some experienced Field-Officer.

The Commissaries General of Provisions and Musters, not being fighting men, are entitled to military rank. The Clothier, Forage and Waggon Masters General, being appendages of the Quarter Master General, are involved and necessarily lost therein, and having no command only over their clerks, waggons and horses, it would be absurd to dub them with rank.

Suppose, in case of capture, (which seldom happens) a *Colonel* or *Brigade-Major* of waggons is taken, would either be included in a cartel with the *Commander* of a British regiment or *Major* of battalion? Certainly not.

This case at once proves the absurdity of such nominal empty titles.—Not one of those officers by virtue of his rank, can sit on court-martial, or take precedence of those of the same rank, in the military line.

Therefore it is not only my wish, but that of many officers in the army, to see those degeneracies done away. If then our Governors would be less generous in lavishing honours so indiscriminately on such, as by their situation, are neither entitled or necessitated to receive them—the service would be more respectable, the army better officered, and the troops more effective. Commissions not being so cheap, would be of importance;—and the grand business of the whole go on with facility.

By what has been said, I do not mean to censure any *Gentleman* now serving in those several stations, but would wish, by attempting to remove so *ridiculous* a precedent, to make us more respectable not only among ourselves, but with the enemy and all other nations. These few remarks are humbly submitted to the Gentlemen of the army, by

A LIEUTENANT-COLONEL.

The subject of the following genuine letters, the time when they were written, and the rank and reputation of the writers, render them of great importance to the public.

“Eagle, June 20, 1776.

I CANNOT, my worthy friend, permit the letters and parcels which I have sent you, in the state I received them, to be landed, without adding a word upon the injurious extremities in which our unhappy disputes have engaged us.

You will learn the nature of my mission from the official dispatches which I have recommended to be forwarded by the same conveyance. Retaining all the earnestness I ever expressed to see our differences accommodated, I shall conceive, if I meet with the disposition in the Colonies which I was once taught to expect, the most flattering hopes of proving serviceable, in the objects of the king's paternal solicitude, by promoting the establishment of lasting peace and union with the Colonies. But if the deep rooted prejudices of America, and the necessity of preventing her trade from passing into foreign channels, must keep us still a divided people, I shall, from every private and public motive, most heartily lament, that it is not the moment wherein those great objects of my ambition are to be attained; and that I am to be longer deprived of an opportunity to assure you personally of the regard with which I am

Your most sincere and faithful humble servant,
“H O W E.

P. S. I was disappointed of the opportunity I expected for sending this letter at the time it was dated, and have been ever since prevented by calms and contrary winds, from getting here to inform General Howe of the commission with which I have the satisfaction to be charged, and of his being joined in it.

Off Sandy-Hook, 12th July.” Superfcribed,
To BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Esq. Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1776.

I Received safe the letters your Lordship so kindly forwarded to me, and beg you to accept my thanks.

The official dispatches, to which you refer me, contain nothing more than what we had seen in the act of parliament, viz. Offers of pardon on submission; which I was sorry to find, as it must give your Lordship pain to be sent so far on so hopeless a business.

Directing pardons to be offered to the Colonies, who are the very parties injured, expresses indeed that opinion of our ignorance, baseness and insensibility which your uninformed and proud nation has long been pleased to entertain of us; but it can have no other effect than that of increasing our resentments. It is impossible we should think of submission to a government that has, with the most wanton barbarity and cruelty, burnt our defenceless towns in the midst of winter, excited the savages to massacre our peaceful farmers, and our slaves to murder their masters; and is even now bringing foreign mercenaries to deluge our settlements with blood. These atrocious injuries have extinguished every spark of affection for that parent country we once held so dear: But, were it possible for us to forget and forgive them, it is not possible for you, I mean the British nation, to forgive the people you have so heavily injured; you can never confide again in those as fellow-subjects, and permit them to enjoy equal freedom, to whom, you know, you have given such just causes of lasting enmity; and this must impel you, were we again under your government, to endeavour the breaking our spirit, by the severest tyranny, and obstructing, by every means in your power, our growing strength and prosperity.

But your Lordship mentions “the King's paternal solicitude for promoting the establishment of lasting peace and union with the Colonies.” If by peace is here meant a peace to be entered into by distinct States, now at war, and his Majesty has given your Lordship power to treat with us of such a peace, I may venture to say, though without authority, that I think a treaty for that purpose not quite impracticable, before we enter into foreign alliances; but I am persuaded you have no such powers. Your nation, though by punishing those American Governors who have fomented the discord, rebuilding our burnt towns, and repairing, as far as possible, the mischief done us, she might recover a great share of our regard, and the greatest share of our growing commerce, with all the advantages of that additional strength to be derived from a friendship with us: Yet I know too well her abounding pride, and deficient wisdom, to believe she will ever take such salutary measures. Her fondness for conquest, as a warlike nation; her lust for dominion, as an ambitious one; and her thirst for a gainful monopoly, as a commercial one (none of them legitimate causes for war) will all join to hide from her eyes every view of her true interests, and will continually goad her on, in these ruinous distant expeditions, so destructive both of lives and of treasure, that they must prove as pernicious to her in the end, as the Croisades formerly were to most of the nations of Europe.

I have not the vanity, my Lord, to think of intimidating, by thus predicting the effects of this war for I know it will in England have the fate of all

former predictions, not to be believed till the event shall verify it.

"Long did I endeavour, with unfeigned and unwearied zeal, to preserve from breaking, that fine and noble china vase—the British empire; for I know, that being once broken, the separate parts could not retain even their shares of the strength and value that existed in the whole; and that a perfect re-union of these parts could scarce ever be hoped for. Your Lordship may possibly remember the tears of joy that wet my cheek, when, at your good sisters in London, you once gave me expectations that a reconciliation might soon take place. I had the misfortune to find these expectations disappointed, and to be treated as the cause of the mischief I was labouring to prevent. My consolation under that groundless and malevolent treatment was, that I retained the friendship of many wise and good men in that country, and, among the rest, some share in the regard of Lord Howe.

"The well founded esteem, and, permit me to say, affection, which I shall always have for your Lordship, make it painful for me to see you engaged in conducting a war, the great ground of which, as described in your letter, is "the necessity of preventing the American trade from passing into foreign channels." To me it seems, that neither the obtaining nor retaining any trade, how valuable so ever, is an object for which men may justly spill each other's blood; that the true and sure means of extending and securing commerce, are the cheapness and goodness of commodities; and that the profits of no trade can ever be equal to the expence of compelling it, and holding it by fleets and armies. I consider this war as, therefore, as both unjust and unwise; and persuaded that cool and dispassionate posterity will condemn to infamy those who advised it; and even success will not save from some degree of reproach those who have voluntarily engaged to continue it.

I know your great motive in coming hither was the hope of being instrumental in a reconciliation; I believe, when you find that to be impossible, on terms given you to propose, you will relinquish a command, and return to a more honorable private station. With the greatest and most sincere respect,

I have the honor to be,
My Lord, your Lordship's most
Obedient humble servant,

B. FRANKLIN."

Right Honorable Lord Viscount HOWE.

L O N D O N,

Two motions of some consequence are expected to be made on Thursday next in the house of commons: One by Lord North, and the other by Pittrell; but on what particular subject is not only known.

Extract of a letter from Baurty, May 26.

We have just had a messenger here from Beetha with an account that an American privateer of 1000 men, and full of men, put in there for water and provisions; she staid near ten hours, and paid very thing."

They write from Lisbon that the Spanish of war are now admitted into the Portuguese as usual, and the Intendants have orders to supply them with whatever necessaries they want.

A Memorial lately presented to the Ministers of France, by Lord Stormont, the English Ambassador at the Court of Versailles.

DEPENDENT of what sovereign states owe themselves, according to the sacred laws of nature and justice, in cases where any of their provinces are invaded; and, not to mention that should the English American Colonies prove successful, the provinces appertaining to other states would be induced to make a similar attempt; the subscribing party is instructed to represent to the Ministers of France, that our Colonies have formed themselves into an independent and formidable empire. Should they not be timely prevented, it will by no means be difficult (considering the powerful resources of every kind) for them to attempt the conquest of other provinces in America, and better situated. France and Spain have more every thing to apprehend for the safety of their Colonies, should those of Great-Britain succeed in their designs.

The subscribing party hopes that these reflections will induce his most Christian Majesty, not only to pursue his pacific intentions at this particular juncture, but also, that he may so far extend his neutral and friendly friendship, as to prohibit the merchants in his dominions from affording those of America (with whom they now trade openly) such vast succours as hitherto been furnished. Above all, it is hoped that Messrs. Dean and Franklin may be restrained in their measures which have been gradually unfolded, and become less and less equivocal. The papers annexed to this memorial will so amply display the nature and the progress of Mr. Dean's negotiations, that after perusal it might reasonably be expected that they should be delivered up.

(Signed)

STORMONT.

N E W - L O N D O N, November 7.

By a gentleman (a native of Boston) who made his escape from New-York, and arrived here last Sunday, we are informed, that he was taken in March last, in a ship bound from Newbury to Bordeaux, and carried into Plymouth in England, from whence he came in a transport to New-York. He informs us that he left Plymouth the 8th of July, at which time about half the militia of the kingdom was kept under arms to suppress the rising of the populace, so great were their disaffection to the present measures of administration. That Great-Britain had applied to all the powers of Europe for troops to send to America, but could obtain no more than 2000, which, with about 400 drafted from the guards in England, was the whole of the reinforcement that lately arrived at New-York. He was desired by a number of gentlemen in England, to inform the people of this country, that no more troops would be sent from any foreign powers; and that England is drained to such a degree that 4000 troops could not be raised in the kingdom for twelve months to come. That by the best intelligence he could get while in England, above one third of the people of that country were friends to America; and that a number of Americans that were taken in privateers, had, to his knowledge, been sent to the East-Indies.

L A N C A S T E R, December 3.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Fish-Kill, dated November 19, 1777.

"A whole picket guard came off together from Kingbridge two days ago, which they say is the second instance of late. The new levies are very discontented, and earnestly wishing to escape, throwing themselves on the mercy of General Gates's army, and are passing fast to Head-Quarters.

"The Tories are universally discouraged through the country, and there appears not in the minds of the people the least doubt of the final success of our great and glorious cause."

B U R L I N G T O N, Dec. 24.

HEAD QUARTERS on Schuylkill, Dec. 17.

G E N E R A L O R D E R S.

THE Commander in Chief, with the highest satisfaction, expresses his thanks to the officers and soldiers for the fortitude and patience with which they have sustained the fatigues of the campaign.

Altho' in some instances we have unfortunately failed; yet upon the whole, Heaven has smiled upon our arms, and crowned them with signal success; and we may upon the best grounds conclude, that by a spirited continuance in the measures necessary for our defence, we shall finally obtain the end of our warfare, Independence, Liberty, and Peace. These are blessings worth contending for at every hazard—but we hazard nothing—the power of America alone, duly exerted, would have nothing to dread from the force of Britain. Yet we stand not wholly upon our own ground. France yields us every aid we ask; and there are reasons to believe the period is not very distant when she will take a more active part, by declaring war against the British crown. Every motive, therefore, irresistibly urges us, nay, commands us to a firm and manly perseverance in our opposition to our cruel oppressors—to slight difficulties, endure hardships, and contend every danger.

The General ardently wishes it were now in his power to conduct the troops into the best winter quarters: But where are these to be found? Should we retire to the interior parts of the State, we should find them crowded with virtuous citizens, who, sacrificing their all, have left Philadelphia and fled thither for protection:—to their distressed humanity forbids us to add. This is not all—we should leave a vast extent of fertile country to be despoiled and ravaged by the enemy, from which they would draw vast supplies, and where many of our firm friends would be exposed to all the miseries of an insulting and wanton depredation—A train of evils might be enumerated, but these will suffice. These considerations make it indispensably necessary for the army to take such a position as will enable it most effectually to prevent distress, and give the most extensive security; and in that position we must make ourselves the best shelter in our power. With alacrity and diligence, huts may be erected that will be warm and dry. In these the troops will be compact, more secure against surprizes, than if in a divided state, and at hand to protect the country. These cogent reasons have determined the General to take post in the neighbourhood of this camp, and influenced by them, he persuades himself that the officers and soldiers with one heart and one mind, will resolve to surmount every difficulty with a fortitude and patience becoming their profession, and the sacred cause in which they are engaged. He himself will share the hardships and partake of every inconvenience.—

Several vessels have lately arrived in James River, from Nantz; among the many valuable articles they brought, are 250 pair of blankets, a quantity of coarse cloth, and between 2 and 3000 bushels of salt.

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman at Camp at Whitemarsh, dated Dec. 10, 1777.

"On the night of the 4th inst. [the British army (distressed for want of elbow room) marched from Philadelphia with the avowed intention of obliging the American army to quit their post at Whitemarsh, and driving them back into the country.—Early on Friday morning they posted themselves strongly on the heights of Chestnut-Hill, about two miles in front of the right wing of our army. While they lay here, General Irvine, with a body of militia, attacked a party of their light troops which were a little advanced in front of their encampment. The skirmish was pretty warm, and the enemy being reinforced, our militia were obliged to retire in some confusion—Unfortunately Gen. Irvine was wounded in the hand and thrown from his horse, by which means he was made prisoner.—The enemy had a number killed and wounded, among the latter was Sir James Murray, a Captain of the light infantry.—Having reconnoitred our right sufficiently, and not liking its appearance of strength, on Saturday night they silently fled off to our left, leaving a party behind them to keep up their fires. On Sunday morning they took post on Edge-Hill, in front of our left: In the afternoon Col. Morgan, with his light corps, fell in with a large body of the enemy, attacked them with spirit, and did great execution. Burgoyne's Grafschoppers * galled them extremely.—The next day, the enemy suddenly retired, and before we could suspect such a thing from these braggadocios, they were on full march for Philadelphia.

"This expedition has only served to discover the weakness and cruelty of the British army—Whenever they marched it was in the night—whenever they halted they took post on the strongest grounds—wherever they came they plundered the miserable inhabitants without respect of persons—Those merciful considerations which should influence us in our treatment of our worst enemies found no place among them—The poor, the widow, the fatherless children, were stripped of their all, even without leaving them bread to eat or cloaths enough to cover them.—Did they who talk of British mercy and protection but see their unhappy sufferers!"

* These are two light 3 pounders, made of wrought iron and manageable with a very few hands, which were taken at Saratoga.

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman at Camp, Schuylkill, dated Dec. 17, 1777.

"We have been for several days past posted on a mountain near the gulph mill, and yesterday a party of the enemy, to the number of forty-five, were surprised and made prisoners."

Died in this city after a short and painful illness Mrs. CECILIA SHEE, wife of Lieutenant-Colonel B. Shee, Quarter-Master-General of artillery, the 35th year of her age; and on Tuesday her remains were interred in the burying-ground of the episcopal church in this place.

Being a stranger among strangers, her character demands this small tribute to her memory from one who is no stranger to her merits. Early in life she pursued the paths of virtue and religion, the command of esteem and conciliated the love of all within the sphere of her acquaintance. To a manly understanding she added the advantages of a liberal education, her sense improved by industry and confirmed by experience. Neither her religion or understanding were the subject of ostentation; the former has been evidenced by many years pain and sufferings, the latter evident from her conduct and conversation. She knew the world enough to despise the things of the world. Every domestic virtue was hers; and next to the Creator, the cares of her family were her chief happiness. She died in the faith of the episcopal church, with that fortitude that ever attends a clear conscience, and a perfect reliance on the goodness of him who is mighty to save: she left the world in a confused state of existence in exchange for a more peaceful state of peace, joy and eternal felicity. A husband and two small infants are left to lament the loss of one of the most amiable of women.

We hear that on Friday last Lord Cornwallis, General Cliveland, Sir George Osborne, and the Hon. Jacob Duché, sailed from Philadelphia for England.

The Legislature of New-Jersey, at their last session at Princeton, appointed the Honourable JOHN THOMPSON, ABRAHAM CLARK, JONATHAN LEE, NATHANIEL SCUDDER and ELIAS BOUDINOT delegates to represent this state in Congress.

A correspondent informs us, that Congress has recommended a convention of commissioners of the several states to form a plan of general regulation respecting the limiting the prices of sundry articles of private manufacture and trade—that those from the western state, inclusive, northward, are to meet on the 1st day of January next at New-Haven—and that the commissioners are appointed for that purpose for the following viz. the Hon. JOHN CLEVES SYMMES, Esq. of Pennsylvania, FURMAN, Esq. and Col. JOHN NEILSON, of New-York.

"It is remarkable," says another correspondent, "that the New-York miserable mercenary Printers, never published their forgeries of the Declaration of Independence procured by Great-Britain, till after the departure of Gen. Burgoyne. It then became necessary

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minister some cordial to support the sinking spirits of the disappointed Tories. And behold the inventive genius of a loyal Printer! He waves his magic wand, and instantly raises 80,000 foreign auxiliaries. The same exuberant fancy has killed 500 of our troops in Fort Mifflin, when every body knows that, after having made as gallant a defence as ever was known during a close siege for near a month, we had only 38 men killed and wounded.—It is to be hoped that after such misrepresentations, which are but small specimens of what those egregious falsifiers are capable of; no reader of any discernment will give credit to their publications which are weekly contrived to suit their purposes without any regard to truth, often without the very semblance of probability.”

* * Advertisements omitted this Week, will be in our next.

December 19, 1777.

To all whom it may concern.

State of New-Jersey, ff.

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 alleged in the bill of Colonel Samuel Dick, (who is well, &c.) against the sloop or vessel called PATTY, her tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo, worth about fifty tons, lately commanded by Tunis Fontaine:—To the end and intent that the owners of the said sloop and her cargo, or any person concerned therein, may appear and shew cause, 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.

Just published and now selling by

JOHN DUNLAP,
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 famous David Rittenhouse, A. M. has favoured us with the astronomical calculations of our almanack for the year; therefore they may be most firmly relied on.

In the Press, and speedily will be Published,

THE BURLINGTON
ALMANACK,
For the Year of our Lord, 1778.

LAMP, TANNERS,
AND
PERMACETI OIL,
To be sold by
THOMAS BUDD, JUN.
Town, in Burlington County, New-Jersey.

December 24th, 1777.

TO BE SOLD,

VERY good scale beam, ropes and scale dishes fit for immediate use; together with eight two twenty-eights, and one fourteen eights. Any person inclining to purchase the same, may view the same and know the price, by sending to the printer hereof. 2w*

December 19, 1777.

TO BE SOLD,
A quantity of SPANISH made
UGARS,
heads, barrels, or smaller quantity, by
LIAM MONTGOMERY,
Near Allen-Town.

December 21st, 1777.

WANTED,
As soon as possible,
A YOUNG WOMAN, with a good breast of milk, to take the nursing of a child. Such a person applying to the printer hereof, having a good recommendation, will meet with proper encouragement.

BEST PRICE AND READY MONEY,
Is given by the Printer hereof, for
FINE LINEN RAGS,
AND
SADDLE BRISTLES.

Substance of LORD CAMDEN'S SPEECH
on LORD CHATHAM'S Motion.

IT is with pleasure I rise to bear testimony how much I approve of the motion made this day by my noble friend, and to express my sense of the very singular obligations this country owes him, particularly on this occasion, when, setting every impediment at a distance, he offers his assistance in rescuing us from the ruin with which this country is surrounded. Before I speak to the immediate objects of the motion, I shall say a few words on the subject to which it relates. The noble Lords on the other side deny that Britain was the aggressor in this quarrel; and assert that America always aimed at Independency. I shall prove, I trust, before I sit down, that both assertions are equally false; I shall prove that we were the aggressors; and consequently that the charge of Independency can be only supported upon what they intended to have done at some future period, and not upon what has actually happened, the aggressor in all contests being chargeable with the consequences. I shall not renew the controversy so often discussed within these walls relative to taxation. You passed a law for laying a tax upon tea, but you could not collect it, because neither importer, nor vender, nor consumer, could be found. You passed another law, which Ministers flattered themselves would force the tax into operation. You gave the East-India Company a drawback on their teas exported to America. The teas were sent to America, particularly to Boston, where a large quantity was destroyed. What did we do? Without demanding reparation, without enquiry, without hearing the party accused, nay, even without proof of the fact, you condemned the people of Boston; you shut up their port; you annihilated private property; you reduced thousands of innocent people to beggary. You did not stop here; you resolved to punish the whole province as well as the town. You deprived them of their charter, upon a process equally regular and just; and, to fill the measure of the oppressions with which you were resolved to afflict them, you deprived them of the benefit of the trial by jury, either as a terror to the guilty, or a protection to the innocent.—What were your preparations, in order to secure the execution of those oppressive and cruel measures? The language of Administration was, that a file of musqueteers would march from one end of America to the other, without molestation; that the acts were so wisely and judiciously planned, that they would execute themselves: Left, however, they might not execute themselves, General Gage was sent out to command a force consisting of four regiments, which were fully adequate, it was said, to the purpose; that was what was emphatically filled, on the passing of the first of those bills, by a noble Lord I now see in his place, (Lord Mansfield) passing the Rubicon.—Neither the file of musqueteers nor the four regiments, however, answered what was promised from them. Twelve months having nearly passed, General Gage, from the weakness of his little army, was obliged to remain inactive; and beheld the Provincials making daily preparations before his face, for a vigorous resistance. Early in the next year we declared those people to be in rebellion; we prohibited them from trading with each other; we deprived them of their fishery; and a noble Lord in the other House pledged himself to that House, that with an army of 10,000 men, which would reach America early in the summer, the conquest of that country would be certain. The troops arrived, the 10,000 men proceeded to hostilities; and, if they were not defeated in the field, we know that America was not conquered, but that the royal army suffered in battle, and mouldered away in such a manner, that they were frightened and besieged in their quarters for full eight months, and escaped with difficulty on board their ships and vessels of war.—Well, the next session arrived; Ministers owned they were deceived in the accounts they received of the disposition of the people of America; the most decisive measures were to be adopted. The same noble Lord, for the third time, grew confident; the full force of this country was to be exerted; 70,000 men and an hundred ships of war were to be employed; foreign mercenary veterans were to supply the place of raw levies; the sword was to be borne in one hand, and the olive-branch in the other. A commission was announced from the throne to hold out the alternative. What has been the effect of all this? From the same authority we are told, we must prepare for another campaign; the decisive measures and full exertions have produced nothing material. The repeated predictions, relative to conquest and subjugation, have failed. What part of America is your own? Just as much as you occupy, or as you can command with the mouths of your cannon.

His Lordship next proceeded to shew in what an

unbecoming manner Administration had behaved in respect to the commission, and the powers granted by that act called the Prohibitory Act, which he declared to be the epitome of every thing cruel and oppressive, and what, with the employing foreign mercenaries to cut their throats, ultimately determined the Americans to declare themselves independent.—He declared, in his conscience, that those were the acts, and those only, which forced the Colonies to take up arms, in the first instance; and to justify their resistance, by throwing off the yoke of oppression and despotism.

His Lordship next turned to the ruinous state of our trade; by those acts, particularly by the Fishery and Capture Acts, you drove the people employed in commerce to desperation. Their wants and resentments united in urging them to the resolution of making a Naval War upon you. What has been the consequence? The seas are covered with their privateers; the French ports are full of them; they come to the very mouth of your river, and insult you, which has raised the insurance of your ships so high, that your merchants can do nothing. Your whole trade to the Mediterranean and up the Straights is carried on in French vessels. There are no fewer than twenty-eight French bottoms now taking in their cargoes in the Thames. If your commerce languishes; if your trade decays, where will you find the means of carrying on a war? While your ships are rotting in your harbours; while your merchants are unable to pay the insurance, the French become your carriers, and the former are left to lament their deplorable and distressful situation. This at once puts an end to the act of navigation, and defeats every benefit it was intended to secure. But, extending our views a step further, what other fatal consequences do we see produced by this unnatural war? The ruin of West-India islands, the loss of their produce; and very considerable bankruptcies which it has occasioned. The proprietors of the estates and plantations those islands, from a state of affluence, are driven to poverty and despair. I am well informed that not more than two hundred families who resided here upon ample incomes, drawn from thence, have been obliged to return thither, being no longer able to maintain themselves in this country. These are melancholy considerations, my Lords; and should be powerful motives with you for agreeing with the present motion. The two noble Lords who have spoken on the other side, have positively denied that France has taken, or means to take, a part in the present dispute. I contend they do this minute take a part, that they have continued to do so from the beginning. I would desire your Lordships to recollect, as was mentioned by the noble Duke in the blue ribbon, myself in the year 1775, relative to the two French gentlemen who went to Washington, then lying before Boston, and who were by him sent to the Congress, where they remained several months. The story was then treated by the noble Lords in Administration in a ludicrous manner; yet this, I believe, was the beginning of what may hereafter produce very serious consequences. I sincerely believe the overtures came from France; and that those gentlemen were the bearers of the message. Every thing which has since happened confirms me in that opinion. It is plain, that the first notice the Ministers received of it was in this House; astonished at the information, I remember, they said it was nothing but a visit of mere idle curiosity. Let us compare the sequel. In the course of the ensuing summer Mr. comes to Paris, and the Christmas following was followed by Dr. Franklin. What has been their negotiation? They frequently appear at Versailles. Lord Stormont in the Ante-Chamber, and attended to conferences with the French King's Ministers. He then assured their Lordships, that he had the strongest reasons to believe, that America was supported and abetted in her resistance, and that the measures of war were fitting out in several ports of France under American colours, to infest the Channel, and annoy our trade. He spoke a considerable time of powers vested in Lord and General Howe, his Majesty's Commissioners, by the Capture Act, and added, that they never were intended to produce accommodation, or any thing qualified or unqualified, of unconditional submission. His Lordship concluded his speech of an hour long, by warning Administration that the eyes of all Europe were now directed towards this country; and, after giving his hearty concurrence to the motion moved by the noble Earl, could not better express his sentiments, he said, by varying a little the Spanish proverb, "Peace to America; and war with the whole world;" he previously endeavoured to shew, that with the assistance of our Colonies we were a match for the powerful combination that could be formed against us; but that, without them, we must dwindle into insignificance and unimportance.

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 for Six Shillings and Six-pence for every Continuance; and long Ones in Proportion.

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