

NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER, 1, 1780.

The CRISIS
EXTRAORDINARY.

(Continued from our last.)

I DO not imagine that an instance can be produced in the world, of a country putting herself to such an amazing charge to conquer and enslave another as Britain has done. The sum is too great for her to think of with any tolerable degree of temper; and when we consider the burden she sustains as well as the disposition she has shewn, it would be the height of folly in us to suppose that she would not reimburse herself by the most rapid means, had she once more America within her power. With such an oppression of expence, what would an empty conquest be to her? What relief under such circumstances could she derive from a victory without a prize? It was money, it was revenue, she first went to war for, and nothing but *that* would satisfy her. It is not the nature of avarice to be satisfied with any thing else. Every passion that acts upon mankind has a peculiar mode of operation. Many of them are temporary and fluctuating; they admit of cessation and variety: But avarice is a fixed uniform passion. It neither abates of its vigour nor changes its object; and the reason why it does not is founded in the nature of things, for wealth has not a rival where avarice is a ruling passion. One beauty may excel another, and extinguish from the mind of a man the pictured remembrance of a former one: But wealth is the phoenix of avarice, and therefore cannot seek a new object, because there is not another in the world.

I now pass on to shew the value of the present taxes, and compare them with the annual expence; but this I shall preface with a few explanatory remarks.

There are two distinct things which make the payment of taxes difficult; the one is the large and real value of the sum to be paid, and the other is the scarcity of the thing in which the payment is to be made; and although these appear to be one and the same, they are in several instances not only different, but the difficulty springs from different causes.

Suppose a tax was to be laid equal to one half of what every man's yearly income is, such a tax could not be paid because the property could not be spared; and on the other hand, suppose a very trifling tax was laid to be collected in *pearls*, such a tax likewise could not be paid, because it could not be had.—Now any person may see that these are distinct cases, and the latter of them is a representation of ours.

That the difficulty cannot proceed from the former, that is, from the real value or weight of the tax, is evident at first view to any person who will consider it.

The amount of the quota of taxes for this state for the present year, 1780 (and so in proportion for every other state) is twenty millions of dollars, which at seventy for one is but sixty-four thousand two hundred and eighty pounds three shillings sterling, and on an average is no more than three shillings and five pence sterling per head per annum, men, women and children, or five pence per head per month. Now here is a clear positive fact, that cannot be contradicted, and which proves that the difficulty cannot be in the weight of the tax, for in itself it is a trifle and far from being adequate to our quota of the expence of the war. The quit rents of one penny sterling per acre on only one half the state, come to upwards of fifty thousand pounds, which is almost as much as all the taxes of the present year, and as those quit rents made no part of the taxes then paid, and are now discontinued, the quantity of money drawn for publick service this year, exclusive of the militia fines, which I shall take notice of in the process of this work, is less than what was paid and payable in any year preceding the revolution, and since the last war; what I mean is that the quit rents and taxes taken together came to a larger sum than the present taxes without the quit rents do now.

My intention by these arguments and calculations is to place the difficulty to the right cause, and shew that it does not proceed from the weight or worth of the tax, but from the scarcity of the medium in which it is paid; and to illustrate this point still farther, I shall now shew, that if the tax of twenty millions of dollars was of four times the real value it now is or nearly so, which would be about two hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling, and would be our full quota, that this sum would have been raised with more ease, and less felt, than the present sum of only sixty-four thousand two hundred and eighty pounds.

The convenience or inconvenience of paying a tax

in money arises from the quantity of money that can be spared out of trade.

When the emissions stopt, the continent was left in possession of two hundred millions of dollars, perhaps as equally dispersed as it was possible for trade to do it. And as no more was to be issued, the rise or fall of prices could neither increase nor diminish the quantity. It therefore remained the same thro' all the fluctuations of trade and exchange.

Now had the exchange stood at twenty for one, which was the rate Congress calculated upon when they quoted the states the latter end of last year, trade would have been carried on for nearly four times less money than it is now, and consequently the twenty millions would have been spared with much greater ease, and when collected would have been of almost four times the value they now are. And on the other hand, was the depreciation to be at ninety or one hundred for one, the quantity required for trade would be more than at sixty or seventy for one, and though the value of the tax would be less, the difficulty of sparing the money out of trade would be greater. And on these facts and arguments I rest the matter, to prove, that it is not the want of property, but the scarcity of the medium by which the proportion of property for taxation is to be measured out, that makes the embarrassment we lie under.—There is not money enough, and what is equally as true, the people will not let there be money enough.

While I am on the subject of the currency, I shall offer one remark which will appear true to every body, and can be accounted for by no body, which is, that the better the times were, the worse the money grew; and the worse the times were, the better the money stood. It never depreciated by any advantage obtained by the enemy. The troubles of seventy-six, and the loss of Philadelphia in seventy-seven, made no sensible impression on it, and every one knows that the surrender of Charlestown did not produce the least alteration in the rate of exchange, which for long before, and for more than three months after, stood at sixty for one. It seems as if the certainty of its being our own made us careless of its value, and that the most distant thoughts of losing it made us hug it the closer, like something we were loth to part with; or that we depreciate it for our pastime, which, when called to seriousness by the enemy, we leave off to renew again at our leisure.—In short our good luck seem to break us, and our bad make us whole.

Passing on from this digression, I shall now endeavor to bring into one view the several parts I have already stated, and form thereon some propositions, and conclude.

I have placed before the reader, the average tax per head paid by the people in England; which is forty shillings sterling.

And I have shewn the rate on an average per head, which will defray all the expence of the war to us, and support the several governments without running the country into debt; which is thirteen shillings and four-pence.

I have shewn what the peace establishment may be conducted for, viz. an eighth part of what it would be, if under the government of Britain.

And I have likewise shewn what the average per head of the present taxes are, namely, three shillings and five-pence sterling, or five-pence per month; and that their whole yearly value in sterling is only sixty-four thousand two hundred and eighty pounds. Whereas our quota to keep the payments equal with the expences, is two hundred and fifty thousand pounds. Consequently there is a deficiency of one hundred and eighty-five thousand seven hundred and twenty pounds, and the same proportion of defect, according to the several quotas, happens in every other state. And this defect is the cause why the army has been so indifferently fed, clothed and paid. It is the cause, likewise, of the nerveless state of the campaign, and the insecurity of the country. Now if a tax equal to thirteen and four-pence per head, will remove all these difficulties, make people secure in their homes, leave them to follow the business of their stores and farms unmolested, and not only keep out, but drive out the enemy from the country; and if the neglect of raising this sum will let them in, and produce the evils which might be prevented, on which side, I ask, does the wisdom, interest and policy lie? Or rather would it not be an insult to reason to put the question? The sum when portioned out according to the several abilities of the people, can hurt no one, but an inroad from the enemy ruins hundreds of families.

Look at the destruction done in this city. The many houses totally destroyed, and others damaged; the waste of fences in the country round it, besides

the plunder of furniture, forage and provision. I do not suppose that half a million sterling would reimburse the sufferers, and does this, I ask, bear any proportion to the expence that would make us secure. The damage on an average is at least ten pounds sterling per head, which is as much as thirteen shillings and four-pence per head comes to for fifteen years. The same has happened on the frontiers, and in the Jerseys, New-York, and other places where the enemy has been, Carolina and Georgia is likewise suffering the same fate.

That the people generally do not understand the insufficiency of the taxes to carry on the war, is evident, not only from common observation, but from the construction of several petitions, which were presented to the assembly of this state, against the recommendation of Congress of the 18th of March last, for taking up and funding the present currency at forty for one, and issuing new money in its stead. The prayer of the petition was, *That the currency might be appreciated by taxes* (meaning the present taxes) *and that part of the taxes be applied to the support of the army, if the army could not be otherwise supported.* Now it could not have been possible for such a petition to have been presented, had the petitioners known, that so far from *part* of the taxes being sufficient for the support of the army, the *whole* of them falls three-fourths short of the year's expences.

Before I proceed to propose methods by which a sufficiency of money may be raised, I shall take a short review of the general state of the country.

Notwithstanding the weight of the war, the ravages of the enemy, and the obstructions she has thrown in the way of trade and commerce, so soon does a young country outgrow misfortune, that America has already surmounted many that once heavily oppressed her. For the first year or two of the war, we were shut up within our ports, scarce venturing to look towards the ocean. Now our rivers are beautified with large and valuable vessels, our stores filled with merchandize, and the produce of the country has a ready market, and an advantageous price. Gold and silver, that for a while seemed to have retreated again within the bowels of the earth, is once more risen into circulation, and every day adds new strength to trade, commerce, and agriculture. In a pamphlet written by Sir John Dalrymple, and dispersed in America in the year 1775, he asserted, that, *two twenty gun ships, nay, says he, the tenders of those ships, stationed between Albermarle sound and Cheasapeake bay, would shut up the trade of America, for 600 miles.* How little did Sir John Dalrymple know of the abilities of America!

While under the government of Britain, the trade of this country was loaded with restrictions. It was only a few foreign ports she was allowed to sail to. Now it is otherwise; and allowing that the quantity of trade is but half what it was before the war, the case must shew the vast advantage of an open trade, because the present quantity under her restrictions could not support itself; from which I infer, that if half the quantity without the restrictions can bear itself up nearly, if not quite, as well as the whole when subject to them, how prosperous must the condition of America be when the whole shall return open with all the world. By trade I do not mean the employment of a merchant only, but the whole interest and business of the country taken collectively.

It is not so much my intention, by this publication, to propose particular plans for raising money, as it is to shew the necessity, and the advantages to be derived from it. My principal design is to form the disposition of the people to such measures which I am fully persuaded is their interest and duty to adopt, and which needs no other force to accomplish them than the force of being felt. But as every hint may be useful, I shall throw out a sketch, and leave others to make such improvements upon it as to them may appear reasonable.

The annual sum wanted is two millions, and the average rate in which it falls is thirteen shillings and four-pence per head.

Suppose then that we raise half the sum and sixty thousand pounds over. The average rate thereof will be seven shillings per head.

In this case we shall have half the supply we want, and an annual fund of sixty thousand pounds whereon to borrow the other million; because sixty thousand pounds is the interest of a million at six per cent. and if at the end of another year we should be obliged, by the continuance of the war, to borrow another million, the taxes will be increased to seven shillings and six-pence; and thus for every million borrowed, an additional tax equal to six-pence per head must be levied.

The sum then to be raised next year will be one million and sixty thousand pounds: One half of which I would propose should be raised by duties on imported goods and prize goods, and the other half by a tax on landed property and houses, or such other means as each state may devise.

But as the duties on imports and prize goods must be the same in all the states, therefore the rate per cent. or in what other form the duty shall be laid, must be ascertained and regulated by Congress, and ingrafted in that form into the law of each state; and the monies arising therefrom carried into the treasury of each state. The duties to be paid in gold or silver.

There are many reasons why a duty on imports is the most convenient duty or tax that can be collected, one of which is, because the whole is payable in a few places in a country, and it likewise operates with the greatest ease and equality, because as every one pays in proportion to what he consumes, so people in general consume in proportion to what they can afford, and therefore the tax is regulated by the abilities which every man supposes himself to have, or in other words every man becomes his own assessor, and pays by a little at a time when it suits him to buy. Besides, it is a tax which people may pay or let alone by not consuming the articles; and though the alternative may have no influence on their conduct, the power of choosing is an agreeable thing to the mind. For my own part, it would be a satisfaction to me, was there a duty on all sorts of liquors during the war, as in my idea of things, it would be an addition to the pleasure of society, to know, that when the health of the army goes round, a few drops from every glass become theirs. How often have I heard an emphatical wish almost accompanied with a tear, "Oh, that our poor fellows in the field had some of this!" Why then need we suffer under a fruitless sympathy, when there is a way to enjoy both the wish and the entertainment at once?

But the great national policy of putting a duty upon imports is, that it either keeps the foreign trade in our own hands or draws something for the defence of the country from every foreigner who participates it with us.

Thus much for the first half of the taxes, and as each state will best devise means to raise the other half, I shall confine my remarks to the resources of this state.

The quota then of this state of one million and sixty thousand pounds will be one hundred and thirty-three thousand two hundred and fifty pounds, the half of which is sixty-six thousand six hundred and twenty-five pounds; and supposing one fourth part of Pennsylvania inhabited, then a tax of one bushel of wheat on every twenty acres of land, one with another, would produce the sum, and all the present taxes to cease. Whereas the tithes of the bishops and clergy in England, exclusive of the tithes, are upwards of half a bushel of wheat on every single acre of land, good and bad, throughout the nation.

In a former part of this paper I mentioned the militia fines, but reserved speaking to the matter, which I shall now do: The ground I shall put it upon is, that two millions sterling a year will support a sufficient army, and all the expences of war and government, without having recourse to the inconvenient method of continually calling men from their employments, which of all others is the most expensive and the least substantial. I consider the revenue created by taxes as the first and principal thing, and fines only as secondary and accidental things. It was not the intention of the militia law to apply the militia fines to any thing else but the support of the militia, neither do they produce any revenue to the state, yet these fines amount to more than all the taxes; for taking the muster roll to be sixty thousand men, the fine on forty thousand who may not attend, will be sixty thousand pounds sterling, and those who muster, will give up a portion of time equal to half that sum, and if the eight classes should be called within the year, and one third turn out, the fine on the remaining forty thousand would amount to seventy-two millions of dollars, besides the fifteen shillings on every hundred pounds property, and the charge of seven and a half per cent for collecting in certain instances, which on the whole would be upwards of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling.

Now if those very fines disable the country from raising a sufficient revenue without producing an equivalent advantage, would it not be to the ease and interest of all parties to increase the revenue in the manner I have proposed, or any better, if a better can be devised, and cease the operation of the fines. I would still keep the militia as an organized body of men, and should there be a real necessity to call them forth, pay them out of the proper revenues of the state, and increase the taxes a third or fourth per cent. on those who did not attend. My limits will not allow me to go farther into this matter, which I shall therefore close with this remark; that fines are, of all modes of revenue, the most unsuited to the mind of a free country. When a man pays a tax, he knows the public necessarily requires it, and therefore feels a pride in discharging his duty; but a fine seems an atonement for neglect of duty, and of consequence is paid with discredit, and frequently levied with severity.

I have now only one subject more to speak to, with which I shall conclude, which is, the resolve of Congress of the 18th of March last, for taking up and funding the present currency at forty for one, and issuing new money in its stead.

Every one knows I am not the flatterer of Congress, but in this instance *they are right*; and if that measure is supported, the currency will acquire a value which without it, it will not. But this is not all: It will give relief to the finances until such time as they can be properly arranged, and save the country from being immediately double taxed under the present mode. In short, support that measure, and it will support you.

I have now waded through a tedious course of difficult business, and over an untrodden path. The subject on every point it could be viewed was entangled with perplexities, and enveloped in obscurity, yet such are the resources of America, that she wants nothing but system to insure success.

COMMON SENSE.

Philadelphia, October 4, 1780.

(Postscript to be inserted in our next.)

[No. II.]

To the LEGISLATURE of the State of NEW-JERSEY.

GENTLEMEN,
I COME now to perform my promise, and do what but for the bounds prescribed me, I should have done in my last.

Congress, at a time when they supposed the par of exchange (or in other words the quantum of depreciation) throughout the United States, taken collectively, was at about forty for one, with design to give stability to their currency, and in some measure to supply their treasury, determined on a new emission at specie value; to secure which from depreciation, they set a triple guard upon it, resolving, 1st, That none of it should be emitted in any state, until that state had established a fund for the redemption of the quota assigned to it. 2d, That it should bear an annual interest of five per cent. to be paid in specie, or bills of exchange on our Commissioners in Europe. 3d, To prevent any depreciation arising from the quantity, it was determined that no more than a certain specified sum should be emitted, and not even that, but upon a proportionable quantity of the old being first brought in and destroyed.

Thus circumstanced, nothing but the unaccountable caprice incident to human nature in certain situations (and I believe not that) can depreciate it.

I know much has been said against this measure as being a breach of public faith, and have often heard persons rail against Congress for having broken faith with the people. I confess my idea has always been that Congress were the representatives of the people, and therefore that the Congress and the People were the same, and that the acts of the one were the acts of the other, consequently that to say the Congress had broke faith with the people, was, in other words, to say that the people had broke faith with themselves, were deceiving and imposing upon themselves, which is absurd.

The idea that Congress and People are two distinct bodies, pursuing separate interests, is, I know, a favourite one with our enemies, and by them inculcated on us by every art in their power. Admitting this plea, let us look back to our first associations, on the faith of which Congress have acted; we there in the most solemn manner pledged our lives and fortunes, and every thing we held dear and sacred, to support them in such measures as should appear to them necessary for maintaining and securing the rights and privileges of America. One of the measures then absolutely necessary was striking bills of credit, on this our faith so solemnly pledged. Have we then, agreeably to these our obligations, thus freely entered into, supported these bills? or have we through interested (not to say worse) motives, spight of every effort of Congress, spight of our own plighted faith, not only suffered them to depreciate, but actually assisted in the depreciation, and thereby deceived Congress in their just expectations, and disappointed them in their best endeavours. If this then is the case, and deny it who can, for justice sake let the blame lie at the right door, and Congress be forever acquitted.

But to return from this digression to the consequences which the resolutions for a new emission had on this state, permit me to observe, that from a paucity incident to popular governments, it was long ere our legislature came into the measure to effect; during which time the continental treasury became more and more exhausted, while we were still performing services which they were unable to pay us for, and furnishing supplies for which we ourselves undertook to pay, thereby emptying our own coffers with little prospect of again filling them, except with certificates, and rendering us unable to procure a sufficient quantity of the old emissions to exchange for the new. But what had a particular effect on the new emission was, that during this interval the old had considerably depreciated, and our legislature, with a mistaken view of adhering strictly to the resolution of Congress, fixed the exchange between the new money and continental at one for forty, and yet in the same law declare the new equal in value with gold and silver; here then is a direct contradiction, the exchange between gold and silver and continental being upwards of sixty for one when the new money first made its appearance; the new emission therefore was at first as it were suspended in equilibrio between the two; but as the taxes were levied in continental, and the new to be received but as one for forty in them, it was easy to foresee which scale must preponderate. Accordingly the new is by common consent, as well as by law, fixed at forty times the value of continental; whereas it is evident that on the same principles, had it not been for the unlucky forty-for-one clause, that is, had it been in nowise connected with continental

but received in taxes at the specie exchange, it would with the same ease have been fixed at specie value. What I would therefore propose is, that the law should be amended, and that specie should be the standard-value of the new emission, and that it should be received in continental taxes at the specie exchange be that what it may, for it appears to me the greatest absurdity to suppose that in private dealings it should pass at one value, in public at another. This I conceive would likewise effectually take off the odium of "breach of public faith" from the measure.

I come now to consider the case of the certificates; and here I have already observed, that the state is considerably indebted to the continent, if then we could take on us the debts due from the continent to individuals, and get credited for the amount with Congress, we should thereby not only pay off our present debt to them, but stand considerably in advance, for which we should be entitled to interest. This, considering the present situation of our treasury, may be thought a romantic scheme, but perhaps on further consideration it may not be found so wild as at first it would appear, nay, so far from being difficult, it may, instead of laying any further burthens on the people, be made a considerable easement to the present; the plan is simple, the path is plain. What is the complaint of the people against the certificates? That they cannot with them pay their debts, their taxes, &c. Now to whom are these debts, these taxes to be paid? We are told, and most of us know very well, that there are immense debts due to the state from the commissioners and purchasers of forfeited estates, and from several counties on account of arrears of taxes, &c. the whole of these therefore might be received in certificates, valued according to their dates and the time when the debts and taxes became due, and to discharge the remaining certificates, let a sufficient sum be struck in bills of credit by this state on the same foundation as those emitted during the last war, and to be redeemed, in shorter periods, in the same manner.

Two objections will, I foresee, be made to this scheme.

1. That the credit of the state is not sufficient to venture to large a draught upon it.

I answer, that during the last war no doubt was made of our ability to redeem any sum which we might find necessary to emit; and I am bold to say, that New-Jersey, even in its present exhausted state, is able to support double the amount of the then emissions, and if we may look forward to the end of the war, and anticipate the advantages which we shall probably then enjoy, I think no man will ever doubt the credit of the state.

2. The second objection is, that we shall be over-run with the quantity of money, and that it will depreciate merely from that circumstance.

To which I answer, the quantity will be trifling to what we should at first blush suppose, when those countless thousands are reduced to their real value, (which every holder of a certificate would gladly receive) the vision disappears, and we shall find no such shocking addition to our current cash, especially when we consider the present scarcity and the constant calls we shall be under the necessity of making to enable us to furnish our supplies for the army.

To illustrate these observations I shall venture at a calculation, and suppose that after the debts due to the state are fully paid, the remaining certificates will amount to twenty millions of dollars, and that the rate of exchange at which they ought to be paid, taking them collectively, is as one for fifty, then say this sum shall be redeemed within ten years, the amount is fifteen thousand pounds annually; a sum barely equal to the late sinking fund, and less by thirty-five thousand pounds than was in circulation on the same footing at the end of the last war, with the advantage of being redeemed in three years less time; and will any person suppose the credit of this state insufficient for that sum, or that the quantity can cause a depreciation.

Thus have I attempted to shew the cause of our distresses, and to point out a remedy. If I am wrong in the first instance, I am probably so in the last. However it is conceded on all hands, that in our present situation something decisive must be done. If a better plan should be proposed, by all means embrace it; if not, and it shall appear to you that the present will fix a standard to our long fluctuating cash; will give it stability and currency; will discharge our debt to the continent, and put us on a respectable footing there; will ease the people from the burthen of their certificates; will enable them to pay not only their arrears of taxes and debts due to the state, but also their debts to and contracts with each other, and thereby enable all to pay their current taxes without distress; if it will not only do this, but enable us in future to purchase our supplies for the army with cash, then you will not hesitate a moment to adopt it. "To linger is to die;" indecision will be our ruin. While the legislature are wavering and uncertain, the people will be doubtful and suspicious. We are at that crisis when, unless some effectual remedy is applied, we perish. We are at that crisis when a proper remedy skilfully applied, will perform wonders, and soon raise the body politic to fresh life and vigour.

SCIPIO.

BOSTON, Oct. 12.

Yesterday a ship of 20 guns, prize to the Mississippian privateer, arrived safe in port. She was bound from New-York to Newfoundland.

Saturday night last, a brig from this port, bound to Martinico, was drove ashore on Petick's island, in the storm, and bilged. The vessel will be lost, but part of the cargo, &c. saved.

Oct. 19. Tuesday arrived here, a light transport ship, prize to Capt. Morris. She was bound from Jamaica to London, and failed in company with about 100 sail, under convoy of two frigates. Capt. Morris was left in fight of the fleet when the prize parted from him.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in New-London, dated October 15, 1780.

"The following accounts I obtained from the Capt. of a sloop which arrived here this day from St. Eustatia, which place he left the 24th September, viz.—That a vessel arrived at St. Eustatia just before he left it from Cape Francois, in 17 days, which brought accounts that the French and Spaniards had taken possession of Jamaica, excepting Port-Royal: That a British frigate arrived at St. Kitt's 8 days before he left St. Eustatia; this frigate was one of the ships that conveyed a fleet from Great-Britain, consisting of 57 sail, bound to different ports, 5 of which were Indianmen: That off Madeira they fell in with 17 sail of French and Spanish ships of the line, which took the whole of their fleet except four sail."

PROVIDENCE, Oct. 5.

Friday last arrived at Newport, his Most Christian Majesty's frigate le Gentile, from Brest, but last from the West-Indies, it is said, with dispatches for their Excellencies General de Rochambeau, and Admiral de Ternay.

Monday last thirteen British ships of the line lay inactive at Gardner's Bay.

NORWICH, October 17.

Saturday night the privateer sloop Right and Justice, arrived at New-London from a cruise, during which she took a sloop from Bermuda, laden with rum, gin, &c. the Captain of which said it was reported there that the French had visited Jamaica, and made a grand acquisition. Also that a French squadron had lately intercepted a Cork fleet bound to New-York, and captured and destroyed nearly the whole.

Thursday last arrived at New-London from Statia, a large ship, deeply laden with salt, wine, and other valuable articles.

Last Thursday the General Assembly of this state convened at Hartford.

NEW-HAVEN, October 19.

Saturday fennight a whale-boat from Norwalk being by stress of weather driven on Long-Island, four of her crew were taken, one killed, and two escaped. The next day a valuable prize was taken from Long Island and carried into Stamford, which the enemy have since attempted to retake, but were disappointed.

FISH-KILL, October 19.

Last week Lieut. Wright Carpenter and two others, went down to Col. James De Lancey's quarters, and lay in wait for his appearance—he accordingly came, and having tied his horse at the door, went in the house; upon which Carpenter seized the horse and mounted; when De Lancey discovering him, immediately alarmed his men, who pursued to White-Plains, but in vain. This horse is one of the finest in America, he cost De Lancey 200l.—Carpenter was offered 150l. as soon as he brought him in.—The cow boys had plundered Carpenter of all his cattle, some time before; when Carpenter went down with a flag, and complained of the cruelty of taking his cattle, and told De Lancey he would have his horse by way of retaliation; upon which De Lancey sneeringly replied, "You may, if you can catch him."

October 26.

Extract of a letter from an Officer of distinction, dated Cagnawaga, October 20, 1780.

"Gen. Van Rensselaer with the militia and the levies under Col. Dubois, engaged the enemy under Sir John Johnson yesterday evening, at Fox's Mills, Tryon county; and, after a very severe action of 3-4 of an hour, forced them to give way and cross the river, leaving their plunder, baggage, and prisoners behind them;—an hour's light would have given us the whole party. The action was general and vigorous. Col. Brown was killed in skirmishing in the fore part of the day. The country is desolated from Fort Hunter up to Stone Arabia, and a part of it; the grain and forage all destroyed. His Excellency the Governor was at the time of the action at this place, forcing a march, with a considerable force, to join Gen. Van Rensselaer in pursuing the enemy, who must in all probability fall into our hands.

"The above party also destroyed Schoharie on the 7th instant. The inhabitants got in the forts, who, with the garrisons, are safe."

Extract of a letter from Albany, dated Oct. 21, 1780.

"Last week we were alarmed with an account that the enemy had taken Fort Anne, on which our militia marched to Half-Moon; when we were ordered to return, as the enemy had re-crossed Lake George. They came down South-Bay, and summoned Fort Anne to surrender, which it did immediately; from thence they marched to Fort George, garrisoned by 80 of Warner's regiment, who were all, except 14, on a scout; who, we hear, were mostly cut to pieces; the officer refused to give up the fort until he capitulated, obtaining his parole, with liberty to take off the women and children.

"On Monday night last the enemy came to Ball's-town, where they have burnt eight or ten houses, and carried off about 30 prisoners, among whom is Col. Gordon.

"On Thursday Sir John Johnson, Butler and Brant made a descent on Schoharie, which they entirely destroyed, with the grain, forage, &c. A prisoner who was taken says they are 485 strong; that they had with them only two or three of the Seneca Indians, and that Cahugas had returned without leave; that they had a brass grags-hopper, a three pounder, and a four pound colhorn.

"From Schoharie they proceeded up the Mohawk river, destroying as far up as Stone Arabia. A letter from Cagnawaga gives the agreeable account of our people's coming up, attacking and compelling them to cross the river, leaving their prisoners, plunder and baggage behind."

NEW-YORK, October 21.

His Excellency the Commander in Chief has been pleased to appoint Benedict Arnold, Esq. Colonel of a regiment, with the rank of a Brigadier-General.

Oct. 23. The French fleet returned to the Cape, consisting of 20 sail of the line, and some few of them conveyed their fleet for Old France.

A frigate with five transports, carrying troops, provisions and necessaries for St. Juan's, on the Spanish Main, sailed from Port Royal the 4th of September.

CHATHAM, October 25.

Extract of a letter from West-Point, dated Oct. 19.

"We have no material news at this post. The trifling descent of the Indians, and their possessing themselves of Forts George and Anne, I dare say you have heard; as also of General Greene's leaving us to take the command of the Southern army, and General Heath's succeeding him. The garrison is exceeding healthy and well supplied, so that were the enemy disposed to avail themselves of any advantages which the particular information of Arnold's perfidy has afforded them, I am confident they would not be able."

Last week Lieut. Raymond, of the state regiment, with twenty men, went down to Hoebuck, captured six of the enemy, and killed one.

PHILADELPHIA, October 25.

Extract of a letter from Cadix, dated Aug. 16, 1780.

"The pleasure of communicating intelligence, that I suppose may prove interesting or acceptable, induces me to give you the following:

"On the 9th instant, at three in the morning, the squadron under the command of Admiral Cordova, consisting of 36 ships (22 Spanish and 14 French) of the line and some frigates, cruising 70 leagues N.W. of Cape St. Vincent, fell in with a fleet of between 50 and 70 sail of English merchantmen and transports, under convoy of the Ramilies and two frigates, destined for Madeira and Jamaica, having on board a large quantity of military stores, provisions and dry goods, and 1000 Highland troops. Three of these vessels, prizes to a French frigate of the squadron, have already arrived here, and, by the prize-masters and prisoners, we learn that most of the others had struck before they were out of sight, (particularly five Indianmen, in which were embarked the troops) and that the rest being closely pursued, they think very few, or none, have been able to escape, except possibly, the ships of war, which being fast sailers, and abandoning the convoy as soon as they discovered their danger, made off with all the sail they could. Some of the swiftest French ships were dispatched after them but with what success is yet doubtful. Governor Dalling was on board the fleet, with all his family, but we do not know what vessel, most probably the Ramilies: His coach and six horses are in one of the prizes now in this Bay. We look for the others every moment.

"The little squadron under the orders of Monsieur Barcelo, stationed off Gibraltar, has also, within these few days past, taken 5 or 6 ships attempting to get into that place with provisions (where they are much wanted) and chased a sloop of war on shore on the coast of Barbary. Thirty sail of French merchantmen which left St. Domingo in June, escorted by two frigates, have all safe arrived here. In short, the affairs of our allies in all quarters seem now to wear a flattering aspect, and to promise a favourable close to the campaign."

TRENTON, NOVEMBER 1.

Conclusion of the returns of members of the legislature, received since our last.

Bergen. Council, Theunis Dey, Esq. Assembly, Peter Wilson, Isaac Blanch and Gabriel Ogden, Esqrs. Cape-May. Council, Jesse Hand, Esq. Assembly, Joseph Hildreth, Jeremiah Eldredge and Matthew Whilden.

Tuesday fennight the Honorable the Legislature, met at this place, agreeable to the constitution.—At the opening of the session the Honorable John Stevens, Esq. was re-chosen Vice-President of the Legislative Council, and the Honorable Josiah Hornblower was chosen Speaker of the House of Assembly.

Yesterday at a joint-meeting of the Honorable Legislative Council and Assembly His Excellency William Livingston, Esq. was re-elected Governor and Captain-General, for the ensuing year: and John Stevens, jun. Esq. was re-appointed Treasurer.

Two of the prizes to the Saroga sloop of war, mentioned in our last, are arrived at Philadelphia, and a third is said to be in Cheasapeake-Bay.

Congress have promoted Brigadier Samuel-Holder Parsons, of Connecticut, to the rank of Major-General in the army of the United States.

Extract of a letter from Goshen, dated October 26.

"We have been in alarm here since the 20th instant, by occasion of the Indians and Tories making depredations above Albany, &c. but it is now over, as our worthy Governor Clinton has had a bloody engagement with the enemy, and totally defeated them, taking their baggage and six field pieces—many have fallen on both sides.—I have to regret the loss of some brave fellows—we expect further particulars every moment."

Authentic advices from the southward announce the arrival of a number of the enemy's ships in Cheasapeake-Bay. This is probably the fleet which lately sailed from New-York. The letters add, that they were landing their troops near Portsmouth in Virginia. We have received no further particulars.

A DIALOGUE between SATAN and ARNOLD.

QUOTH Satan to Arnold, my worthy good fellow; I love you much better than ever I did: "You live like a prince, with Hal may get mellow; "But mind that you both, do just what I bid. "Quoth Arnold to Satan, my friend do not doubt me; "I will strictly adhere to all your great views: "To you I'm devoted, with all things about me: "You'll permit me I hope, to die in my shoes."

JUST PUBLISHED,

And to be sold Wholesale and Retail, at the Printing-Office, in Trenton,

THE NEW-JERSEY

ALMANACK,

For the Year of our Lord 1781.

Containing a Variety of useful and entertaining Matter in Prose and Verse.

Where also may be had, PARCHMENT, Of the first Quality.

SHORE SALT,

Made COARSE for packing of MEAT, may be had of

JOHN POPE,

At his STORE near the Black-Horse, in Mansfield township, Burlington county,

Either in large or small quantities, and on reasonable terms.

October 23, 1780.

3W

The PUBLIC are hereby informed,

THAT the Continental Ferry across Delaware, at Trenton, is removed from the Upper to the Lower Ferry; of which all persons in public employ having occasion to pass the said ferry are to take notice—Where good boats and careful attendance is continued for the convenience of private travellers also.

Trenton, October 25, 1780.

STOLEN from the subscriber, near the Great Falls in Bergen county, on Thursday night last, a likely dark bay MARE, about 15 hands high, a nick'd tail, and some white hair where she is nick'd; the hind feet white round the hoofs, one foot a little more white than the other; branded with IW on the right shoulder, but not very plain. Whoever takes up and secures the said mare, shall have TEN hard DOLLARS reward, and all reasonable charges, paid by me

JACOB VAN WINCKEL.

October 23d, 1780.

2†

BROKE out of Mr. John Smith's pasture at Maidenhead, a large sorrel HORSE, about 15 and a half hands high, a natural trotter, his hind feet white, and has a remarkable lump or bunch on his near hind gambole. Whoever takes up and delivers the said horse to Mr. Bergen, at Trenton, David Olden, at Princeton, or Major Clarkson Edgar, at New-Brunswick, shall be reasonably rewarded by

BENJAMIN MANNING.

Trenton, October 31, 1780.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Jonathan Furman, deceased, are requested to make payment in one month from this date, or they will be proceeded against as the law directs: And those who have any just demands against said estate, are desired to bring in their accounts for settlement.

RICHARD FURMAN, } Executors.
ROBERT FURMAN, }

Trenton, October 27, 1780.

3W

T O B E S O L D,

By the subscriber, living in Somerset county, near Rocky-Hill,

A Likely hearty Negro Man, about 26 or 27 years of age, and understands all sorts of farming business, and is a very good tanner. He will be disposed of for 130l. in specie, or the value thereof in current money.

REOLOF VAN DIKE.

October 30, 1780.

2W†

TO B E S O L D at publick vendue, if not disposed of at private sale, on Monday the 27th November instant, a very commodious Dwellinghouse and Lot, as also a very valuable Tanyard, containing 15 vats, a large barkhouse, millhouse, currying and shoemakers shops; together with every other necessary for carrying on the tanning and currying business—all lying in Allentown. For further particulars apply to the subscriber on the premises.

3W†

JAMES ROGERS.

Elizabeth-Town Stage.

THE subscriber hereby informs the PUBLICK, that he has provided a STAGE-WAGGON, commodiously fitted for passengers, and will set out from the sign of the Crois-Keys at the corner of Chestnut and Third-streets, in Philadelphia, on every Wednesday and Saturday mornings, precisely at 10 o'clock, and proceed to Princeton; there meet the stages who have engaged to be there from Elizabeth-Town and Morris-Town, every Thursday at 12 o'clock, and Sunday evenings. The rout of this stage is from the Crois-Keys on Wednesday to Four Lanes End; Thursday morning proceed to Trenton, to the house of Jacob G. Bergen, there breakfast; from thence to Princeton, to Col. Jacob Hyer's, and return to Trenton the same evening; from thence next morning by the Four Lanes End to Philadelphia; Saturday we proceed from Philadelphia to Four Lanes End, Sunday to Trenton by 12 o'clock, from thence to Princeton; Monday return from Princeton, dine at Trenton, and proceed to the Four Lanes End; Tuesday morning to Philadelphia.

All passengers, packages, &c. are desired to be at each place at the above appointed times.—The price for each passenger from Philadelphia to Princeton is Two Silver Dollars, or the exchange in Continental, and the same for 150lb. baggage.

The subscriber will purchase goods for gentlemen at as low a rate as may be had, and charge five per cent. for purchasing, and will charge only half the aforesaid price for the freight, provided he has not full loads of passengers and baggage; and in case he has, he will procure teams that will carry the goods at the same rate.—All gentlemen and ladies who will please to favour him with their custom, may depend on punctual attendance, and their favours will be gratefully acknowledged by

The Publick's humble servant,
GERSHOM JOHNSON.

N. B. Philadelphia and Trenton papers may be had of said Johnson. October 20, 1780.

United States, } NOTICE is hereby given
Pennsylvania, } to all persons interested
or concerned in the cause, Frederick Steelman, &c. libellant, against the schooner Lawrens and her cargo, lately depending in the court of admiralty of New-Jersey, that the honourable the court of appeals in cases of capture, have appointed Monday the thirteenth day of November next to hear reasons (if any there be) assigned why the appeal demanded by the said Steelman, on the sixteenth day of September last, and refused by the said court of admiralty, should not be received, heard, and determined by the said court of appeals.

By order of the court,
3* ANDREW ROBESON, Reg.

To be SOLD by the Subscriber,
On Monday the 6th day of November next, on the premises, at publick auction,

A HOUSE and LOT of LAND, situate in the city of New-Brunswick, adjoining the old Presbyterian Meeting-house, and fronting the river Raritan. It is suitable for either merchant or tradesman. The vendue to begin at ten o'clock in forenoon, when the conditions will be made known by

WILLIAM VANDERILL.
October 20, 1780. 2w*

STOLEN,

OUT of the pasture of the subscriber, in the night of the 18th of October instant, two forrel horses, the largest about fifteen hands and an inch high, has a blaze in his forehead, a grizzled mane, and is branded on the buttock I. R. and is a natural pacer; the other about fifteen hands high, has a star in his forehead, no brand, and is a natural trotter, but will sometimes pace; both are stout bodied strong built horses. Whoever will secure the thief so that he may be brought to conviction, and bring the horses to the subscriber, shall have a reward of Fifteen Pounds current money of New-York, in specie, or Five Pounds, money aforesaid, for each of the horses, exclusive of all reasonable charges paid by

3* JOHN ROMINE.
Bergen County, New-Barbados, Oct. 21, 1780.

TO BE SOLD,

A GOOD stone house in Trenton, at a corner very suitable for publick business, being well accommodated with stores, &c. a large garden, and fourteen acres of land within half a mile of the town.—Enquire of the printer. 3*

TO BE SOLD,

A good Milch COW.

Enquire of the Printer.

JUST PUBLISHED,
And to be SOLD, wholesale and retail, by
ISAAC COLLINS,
At the PRINTING-OFFICE, in TRENTON,
A neat EDITION of
THE NEW TESTAMENT,

Printed on a good type, and good paper.

To be SOLD at VENDUE,

On the premises, on Tuesday the 21st November, at two o'clock afternoon,

A PLANTATION containing about 120 Acres, at Rocky-Hill, in Middlesex county, in possession of Black Will, a free Negro, about a mile from the post road; about 30 acres clear, with a log-house, frame barn, an excellent orchard of bearing apple trees. The payment ready money. Any further particulars may be known on the day of sale, of William Coxe.

November 20, 1780. 3w†

STRAYED or STOLEN,

ON the 17th inst. from the Subscriber at Trenton Landing, a bright bay mare, 7 years old, her near hind foot white, and a large blaze in her forehead; her mane hangs the near side; most natural to a rack and pace; about 14 hands one inch high. Whoever has found the same and will deliver her to the owner, or give information so that she may be had again, shall have TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS reward, and reasonable charges, paid by

July 25, 1780. JOHN CLUNN.

ROBERT SINGER,

OF TRENTON, has for SALE,

A NUMBER of good broad cloths of various colours, coatings, dowlas, Russia sheeting, chintzes, silk patterns for gowns, checks; a variety of handkerchiefs, rum, sugar, tea, coffee, pepper, alspice, black and white silk for bonnets, carpets for tables or floors, mens stockings, shoe buckles, and various other things too tedious to mention.

Also, a young NEGRO WOMAN, with her child ten months old.

Trenton, September 22, 1780.

WHEREAS the Honourable the Congress, being desirous of doing all possible justice to the citizens of the United States, have resolved, That upon report being made to them of the money due in each state to the inhabitants thereof, warrants will immediately issue for the payment of the same:

Therefore the subscriber requests and hopes, that all persons having any demands against the Quartermasters and Foragers in this state for any debt contracted, or service done, between the 2d day of March 1778, and the 20th day of September 1780, will immediately bring in the same to the person who made the contract or purchase, in order that the same may be adjusted and reported. And the subscriber being very desirous of accomplishing this business with all possible dispatch, proposes to give attendance at his office in Trenton all the month of October next.

The subscriber also requests all persons within this state, having any publick property in their hands, or knowing of any in the hands of any other person, immediately to return or report the same to the nearest Quartermaster, or to him. Any person secreting publick property after this notice, will be prosecuted according to law.

MOORE FURMAM,
Late D. Q. M. Gen. New-Jersey.

To whom it may concern:

NOTICE is hereby given, that a Court of Admiralty will be held for the state of New-Jersey, at the house of Isaac Wood in Mount-Holly, on Friday the tenth day of November next, to try the truth of the facts alledged in the bill of John Hymes, *qui tam*, &c. against the schooner Sally, ----- Williams late master, her tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo; and also against Negroes Jack and Ripin, taken on board the said schooner (who say they are the property of some inhabitant of the state of Virginia, and were taken by certain refugees, who were on board said schooner lately drove on shore on the coast of New-Jersey, at Peek's-Beach, and since got off.) To the end and intent that the owner or owners of the said vessel, her tackle, apparel, furniture, cargo, and the said Negroes, or any other person interested therein, may appear and shew cause, if any they have, why the same should not be condemned according to the prayer of said bill.

By order of the Judge,
JOS. BLOOMFIELD, Register.
N. B. At the same time and place will be tried the truth of the facts contained in the libel against sloop Revenge, adjourned over from the last Court of Admiralty. October 5, 1780.

The Price of this Gazette is 2/6, paid in Produce, or 3/9 Specie, or the exchange thereof in Continental Money, at the time of payment per Quarter.

Fulling-Mill.

THE subscriber takes this method to acquaint his old customers and the Publick in general, that he has taken his fulling-mill into his own care, and works in it himself, and shall endeavour to give satisfaction to all who shall favour him with their custom.

PHILIP GRANDIN.
Lebanon, October 24, 1780.

ROBERT EASTBURN,

OF NEW-BRUNSWICK,

Hath for SALE, for Cash or Country Produce,

TWO Houses and Lots of ground, situate in the township of Hillsborough, county of Somerset, at the place called Coughtown; the one a new unfinished house, with a barn; the other is rented till next May, but may then be entered upon. Said Eastburn hath also for sale, for cash or country produce, good West-India rum, spirit, wine, Holland gin, molasses, tea, sugar, coffee, chocolate, alspice, ginger, pepper, snuff, indigo by the quantity, rozin, primers, &c. Also sundry kind of dry goods as usual.

WILLIAM LAWSON,

In New-Brunswick, near the Market-House, has for SALE the following articles, viz.

RICH mode of the best kind, black gauze, sewing silk, black lace, white ditto, bonnet papers, blue and brown sagathy, callico, silk handkerchiefs, linen ditto, fine and coarse linens, white thread from No. 17 to 48, coarse and fine camblets, brown sugar, white ditto by the quantity or single pound; a large assortment of earthenware, some large pots and pans. Also fine and coarse combs, mohair buttons, twist and needles; coffee, chocolate, indigo, alspice, tobacco, snuff, salt, allum, brimstone, copperas, pins, hard soap, shoe buckles, shoes, writing paper, sleeve buttons, pins, several sorts of ribbons, primers, tea, &c. &c. &c. All which will be sold at the lowest prices for cash or country produce. 5w*

RAN AWAY,

On the evening of the 17th instant,

A NEGRO MAN called NED, a stout fellow about five feet ten or eleven inches high, speaks very low; had on and took with him when he went away, a wool hat with white loops, a brown homespun coat, one woollen check and a tow-cloth shirt, and two pair of tow-cloth trousers. Whoever apprehends and secures the said negro, so that his master may have him again, shall be amply rewarded, and all reasonable charges paid by the subscriber.

J. WINTERS.

Rocky-Hill, Sept. 19, 1780.

Buckingham township, Bucks county, Oct. 14, 1780.

Eight Hundred Dollars Reward.

THE stable of the subscriber was broke open on the evening of the 12th instant, and was stolen from thence a half-blooded white STONE HORSE, known by the name of the Young Irish Grey, eight years old, full fifteen hands high, well made, with a handsome switch tail, natural to trot and canter. Whoever takes up said horse and thief, so that the owner may get the horse again, and the thief brought to justice, shall have the above reward, or Six Hundred Dollars and reasonable charges for the horse only, if brought to Thomas Hutchinson, of Lower Makefield, in said county, or to the subscriber as above.

3w† WILLIAM SIMPSON.

WILLIAM THOMAS,

GOLD and SILVER-SMITH,

TAKES this method to acquaint his FRIENDS and the PUBLICK, that he has removed from Elizabeth-Town to Trenton, where he carries on his business in its various branches. He also carries on the

PLATING BUSINESS

extensively; and engages that all his work shall be equal in goodness and neatness to any ever imported from England.

Gentlemen who may oblige him with their custom, by giving timely notice, shall be furnished with any quantity of work in either of those branches, and particularly with bridle-bits, stirrups, irons, spurs, buckles, &c. &c.

Trenton, October 17, 1780.