

## NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1778.

The following is published by order of the General Assembly of this State, for the consideration of the inhabitants thereof.

ARTICLES of CONFEDERATION and perpetual UNION between the States of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts - Bay, Rhode - Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina and Georgia.

## ARTICLE I.

THE title of this confederacy shall be "The United States of America."

Art. II. Each State retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence, and every power, jurisdiction and right, which is not by this confederation expressly delegated to the United States in Congress assembled.

Art. III. The said States hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other, for their common defence, the security of their liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding themselves to assist each other, against all force offered to, or attacks made upon them, or any of them, on account of religion, sovereignty, trade, or any other pretence whatever.

Art. IV. The better to secure and perpetuate mutual friendship and intercourse among the people of the different States in this union, the free inhabitants of each of these States, paupers, vagabonds and fugitives from justice excepted, shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of free citizens in the several States; and the people of each State shall have free ingress and regress to and from any other State, and shall enjoy therein all the privileges of trade and commerce, subject to the same duties, impositions and restrictions as the inhabitants thereof respectively, provided that such restriction shall not extend so far as to prevent the removal of property imported into any State, to any other State of which the owner is an inhabitant; provided also, that no imposition, duties or restriction shall be laid by any State, on the property of the United States, or either of them.

If any person guilty of, or charged with treason, felony, or other high misdemeanour in any State, shall flee from justice, and be found in any of the United States, he shall upon demand of the Governor, or executive power of the State from which he fled, be delivered up and removed to the State having jurisdiction of his offence.

Full faith and credit shall be given in each of these States to the records, acts, and judicial proceedings of the courts and magistrates of every other State.

Art. V. For the more convenient management of the general interests of the United States, delegates shall be annually appointed in such manner as the legislature of each State shall direct, to meet in Congress on the first Monday in November, in every year, with a power reserved to each State, to recall its delegates or any of them, at any time within the year, and to send others in their stead, for the remainder of the year.

No State shall be represented in Congress by less than two, nor by more than seven members; and no person shall be capable of being a delegate for more than three years, in any term of six years; nor shall any person, being a delegate, be capable of holding any office under the United States, for which he, or another for his benefit, receive any salary, fees, or emolument of any kind.

Each State shall maintain its own delegates in a meeting of the States, and while they act as members of the committee of the States.

In determining questions in the United States in Congress assembled, each State shall have one vote.

Freedom of speech and debate in Congress shall not be impeached or questioned in any court or place out of Congress, and the members of Congress shall be protected in their persons from arrests and imprisonments during the time of their going to and from, and attendance on Congress, except for treason, felony, or breach of the peace.

Art. VI. No State without the consent of the United States in Congress assembled, shall send any embassy to, or receive any embassy from, or enter into any conference, agreement, alliance or treaty with any King, Prince or State; nor shall any person holding any office of profit or trust under the United States, or any of them, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State; nor shall the United States in Congress assembled, or any of them, grant any title of nobility.

No two or more States shall enter into any treaty, confederation or alliance whatever between them,

without the consent of the United States in Congress assembled, specifying accurately the purpose for which the same is to be entered into, and how long it shall continue.

No State shall lay any imposts or duties, which may interfere with any stipulations in treaties entered into by the United States in Congress assembled, with any King, Prince or State, in pursuance of any treaties already proposed by Congress, to the courts of France and Spain.

No vessels of war shall be kept up in time of peace by any State, except such number only, as shall be deemed necessary by the United States in Congress assembled, for the defence of such State or its trade; nor shall any body of forces be kept up by any State, in time of peace, except such number only, as in the judgment of the United States in Congress assembled, shall be deemed requisite to garrison the forts necessary for the defence of such State; but every State shall always keep up a well regulated and disciplined militia, sufficiently armed and accoutred, and shall provide and constantly have ready for use, in public stores, a due number of field pieces and tents, and a proper quantity of arms, ammunition and camp equipage.

No State shall engage in any war without the consent of the United States in Congress assembled, unless such State be actually invaded by enemies, or shall have received certain advice of a resolution being formed by some nation of Indians to invade such State, and the danger is so imminent as not to admit of a delay, till the United States in Congress assembled can be consulted; nor shall any State grant commissions to any ships or vessels of war, nor letters of marque or reprisal, except it be after a declaration of war by the United States in Congress assembled, and then only against the kingdom or state and the subjects thereof, against which war has been so declared, and under such regulations as shall be established by the United States in Congress assembled, unless such state be infested by pirates, in which case vessels of war may be fitted out for that occasion, and kept so long as the danger shall continue, or until the United States in Congress assembled shall determine otherwise.

Art. VII. When land forces are raised by any State for the common defence, all officers of or under the rank of Colonel, shall be appointed by the legislature of each State respectively, by whom such forces shall be raised, or in such manner as such State shall direct, and all vacancies shall be filled up by the State which first made the appointment.

Art. VIII. All charges of war, and all other expenses that shall be incurred for the common defence or general welfare, and allowed by the United States in Congress assembled, shall be defrayed out of a common treasury, which shall be supplied by the several States, in proportion to the value of all land within each State, granted to or surveyed for any person, as such land and the buildings and improvements thereon shall be estimated according to such mode as the United States in Congress assembled, shall from time to time direct and appoint. The taxes for paying that proportion shall be laid and levied by the authority and direction of the legislatures of the several States within the time agreed upon by the United States in Congress assembled.

Art. IX. The United States in Congress assembled shall have the sole and exclusive right and power of determining on peace and war, except in the cases mentioned in the sixth article—of sending and receiving ambassadors—entering into treaties and alliances, provided that no treaty of commerce shall be made whereby the legislative power of the respective States shall be restrained from imposing such imposts and duties on foreigners, as their own people are subjected to, or from prohibiting the exportation or importation of any species of goods or commodities whatsoever—of establishing rules for deciding in all cases, what captures on land or water shall be legal, and in what manner prizes taken by land or naval forces in the service of the United States shall be divided or appropriated—of granting letters of marque and reprisal in times of peace—appointing courts for the trial of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and establishing courts for receiving and determining finally appeals in all cases of captures, provided that no member of Congress shall be appointed a judge of any of the said courts.

The United States in Congress assembled shall also be the last resort on appeal in all disputes and differences now subsisting or that hereafter may arise between two or more States concerning boundary, jurisdiction, or any other cause whatever; which authority shall always be exercised in the manner following. Whenever the legislative or executive au-

thority or lawful agent of any State in controversy with another shall present a petition to Congress stating the matter in question and praying for a hearing, notice thereof shall be given by order of Congress to the legislative or executive authority of the other State in controversy, and a day assigned for the appearance of the parties by their lawful agents, who shall then be directed to appoint by joint consent, commissioners or judges to constitute a court for hearing and determining the matter in question; but if they cannot agree, Congress shall name three persons out of each of the United States, and from the list of such persons each party shall alternately strike out one, the petitioners beginning, until the number shall be reduced to thirteen; and from that number not less than seven, nor more than nine names, as Congress shall direct, shall in the presence of Congress be drawn out by lot, and the persons whose names shall be so drawn or any five of them, shall be commissioners or judges, to hear and finally determine the controversy, so always as a major part of the judges who shall hear the cause shall agree in the determination: and if either party shall neglect to attend at the day appointed, without shewing reasons, which Congress shall judge sufficient, or being present shall refuse to strike, the Congress shall proceed to nominate three persons out of each State, and the Secretary of Congress shall strike in behalf of such party absent or refusing; and the judgment and sentence of the court to be appointed, in the manner before prescribed, shall be final and conclusive; and if any of the parties shall refuse to submit to the authority of such court, or to appear or defend their claim or cause, the court shall nevertheless proceed to pronounce sentence, or judgment, which shall in like manner be final and decisive, the judgment or sentence and other proceedings being in either case transmitted to Congress, and lodged among the acts of Congress for the security of the parties concerned: provided that every commissioner, before he sits in judgment, shall take an oath to be administered by one of the judges of the supreme or superior court of the State, where the cause shall be tried, "well and truly to hear and determine the matter in question, according to the best of his judgment, without favour, affection, or hope of reward;" provided also that no State shall be deprived of territory for the benefit of the United States.

All controversies concerning the private right of soil claimed under different grants of two or more States whose jurisdictions as they may respect such lands, and the States which passed such grants are adjusted; the said grants, or either of them, being at the same time claimed to have originated antecedent to such settlement of jurisdiction, shall, on the petition of either party to the Congress of the United States, be finally determined as near as may be in the same manner as is before prescribed for deciding disputes respecting territorial jurisdiction between different States.

The United States in Congress assembled, shall also have the sole and exclusive right and power of regulating the alloy and value of coin struck by their own authority, or by that of the respective States—fixing the standard of weights and measures throughout the United States—regulating the trade and managing all affairs with the Indians not members of any of the States, provided that the legislative right of any State within its own limits be not infringed or violated—establishing and regulating post-offices from one State to another, throughout all the United States, and exacting such postage on the papers passing through the same as may be requisite to defray the expense of said office—appointing all officers of the land forces in the service of the United States, excepting regimental officers—appointing all the officers of the naval forces, and commissioning all officers whatever in the service of the United States—making rules for the government and regulation of the said land and naval forces, and directing their operations.

The United States in Congress assembled shall have authority to appoint a Committee to sit in the recess of Congress, to be denominated "A Committee of the States," and to consist of one delegate from each State; and to appoint such other Committees and civil officers as may be necessary for managing the general affairs of the United States, under their direction—to appoint one of their number to preside, provided that no person be allowed to serve in the office of president more than one year in any term of three years—to ascertain the necessary sums of money to be raised for the service of the United States, and to appropriate and apply the same for defraying the public expenses—to borrow money or emit bills on the credit of the United States, transmitting every half year to the respective States an account of the sums of money so borrowed or emitted to build or equip a navy—to

agree upon the number of land forces, and to make requisitions from each State for its quota, in proportion to the number of white inhabitants in such State; which requisition shall be binding, and thereupon the legislature of each State shall appoint the regimental officers, raise the men, and clothe, arm and equip them in a soldier-like manner, at the expence of the United States, and the officers and men so clothed, armed and equipped, shall march to the place appointed, and within the time agreed on by the United States in Congress assembled: But if the United States in Congress assembled shall, on consideration of circumstances, judge proper that any State should not raise men, or should raise a smaller number than its quota, and that any other State should raise a greater number of men than the quota thereof, such extra number shall be raised, officered, clothed, armed and equipped in the same manner as the quota of such State, unless the legislature of such State shall judge that such extra number cannot be safely spared out of the same; in which case they shall raise, officer, clothe, arm and equip as many of such extra number as they judge can be safely spared. And the officers and men so clothed, armed and equipped, shall march to the place appointed, and within the time agreed on by the United States in Congress assembled.

The United States in Congress assembled shall never engage in a war, nor grant letters of marque and reprisal, in time of peace, nor enter into any treaties or alliances, nor coin money, nor regulate the value thereof, nor ascertain the sums and expences necessary for the defence and welfare of the United States, or any of them, nor emit bills, nor borrow money on the credit of the United States, nor appropriate money, nor agree upon the number of vessels of war to be built or purchased, or the number of land or sea forces to be raised, nor appoint a commander in chief of the army or navy, unless nine States assent to the same; nor shall a question, on any other point, except for adjourning from day to day, be determined, unless by the votes of a majority of the United States in Congress assembled.

The Congress of the United States shall have power to adjourn to any time within the year, and to any place within the United States, so that no period of adjournment be for a longer duration than the space of six months, and shall publish the journal of their proceedings monthly, except such parts thereof relating to treaties, alliances, or military operations, as in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the delegates of each State on any question shall be entered on the journal, when it is desired by any delegate; and the delegates of a State, or any of them, at his or their request, shall be furnished with a transcript of the said journal, except such parts as are above excepted, to lay before the legislatures of the several States.

Art. X. The Committee of the States, or any nine of them, shall be authorized to execute, in the recess of Congress, such of the powers of Congress as the United States in Congress assembled, by the consent of nine States, shall from time to time think expedient to vest them with; provided that no power be delegated to the said Committee, for the exercise of which, by the articles of confederation, the voice of nine States in the Congress of the United States assembled is requisite.

Art. XI. Canada acceding to this confederation, and joining in the measures of the United States, shall be admitted into, and entitled to all the advantages of this union; but no other colony shall be admitted into the same, unless such admission be agreed to by nine States.

Art. XII. All bills of credit emitted, monies borrowed, and debts contracted by, or under the authority of Congress, before the assembling of the United States, in pursuance of the present confederation, shall be deemed and considered as a charge against the United States, for payment and satisfaction whereof the said United States and public faith are hereby solemnly pledged.

Art. XIII. Every State shall abide by the determinations of the United States in Congress assembled, on all questions which by this confederation are submitted to them. And the articles of this confederation shall be inviolably observed by every State, and the union shall be perpetual; nor shall any alteration at any time hereafter be made in any of them, unless such alterations be agreed to in Congress of the United States, and be afterwards confirmed by the legislature of every State.

*These articles shall be proposed to the legislatures of all the United States, to be considered, and if approved of by them, they are advised to authorize their delegates to ratify the same in the Congress of the United States; which being done, the same shall become conclusive.*

By order of Congress,

HENRY LAURENS, President.

PHILADELPHIA, April 17.

By a ship of war which arrived here on Tuesday last, in twenty-eight days from England, with despatches for his Excellency the Commander in Chief, we have been favoured with the latest London papers, from which we have extracted the following intelligence:

LONDON, February 19.

THE house of commons went into a committee on Tuesday night, after the debate was over, upon the proposals offered by Lord North relative to America, and as soon as the chairman left the chair, a motion was made,

"That leave be given to bring in a bill to enable his Majesty to appoint commissioners to treat, consent and agree on the means of quieting the disorders now subsisting in certain of the colonies, plantations and provinces of America." Also,  
"A bill for declaring the intentions of the parliament of Great-Britain, concerning the exercise of the right of imposing taxes on the colonies, plantations and provinces of America."

The question was then put and agreed, and the bills ordered to be brought in by Lord North, the Attorney and Solicitor General, Sir Grey Cooper, &c.

FEBRUARY 19.

Lord NORTH'S SPEECH on his Conciliatory Motion, on Tuesday last, from a member.

THE propositions which I have the honour to offer to this house, is for two acts of parliament. I will now open the contents of them full, and will then refer them to a committee of the whole house. At the opening of the present session, on the first day, during the debate on the address to his Majesty, I told the house, that in my opinion terms might be made with the colonies, short of unconditional submission, and that the time of making them was the moment of victory. I said this, thinking that the victory gained by Sir William Howe was more decisive than it really was; and ignorant at the time of the disaster which had fallen on General Burgoyne's army. When the news of that melancholy event arrived, I was struck that the time of proposing terms was past, and that the first point to be done was the raising of new levies, and a new force. The consequences of that misfortune were unknown; the general idea was, that the victorious army would march to Philadelphia, and that, flushed with victory, a general engagement might have happened, which would have been decisive. I thought it necessary, therefore, to wait till the end of the campaign, till I had a knowledge of all the events of it: It is ended, and nothing decisive has happened. The forces of Washington are not sufficient to make him quit his defensive plan. Our army is great, our navy is great, our men in health, in spirits, and well supplied; but the resistance of America is greater, and the war has lasted longer, than was at first apprehended, much longer than any friend to this country could wish, and I do not think that it will end in this campaign. I think that our forces are sufficient to compel America to accept of reasonable terms; but I make my proposition on this ground, that it is better to offer a concession to the colonies now, which may end the contest within the year, than to continue the war for three or four years longer, though with the assurance of complete conquest. In the present situation of affairs, only three propositions can be made:

I. To strengthen our force, and continue the war upon the present plan.

II. To recal it from America. And,

III. To offer terms of conciliation to her.

The first proposition is attended with too great an expence of men and money, an expence which conquest itself would not balance. The second is, to subscribe to the independency of America. The third is that which appears to me to be the best and wisest. I never thought of proposing an ultimatum to America. In a contest which contains so many nice and difficult points, so many matters which demand future remedies, without any person present on the part of the colonies, that would be impossible and impracticable. Whatever you give, unless it is first settled and agreed on by persons authorized by the colonies, might be given in vain. The danger also of publishing such an ultimatum would be great; every word would be critically examined by jealous powers, and receive an invidious and false construction or unjust comment. Every proposition would be blasted before it reached America. If it got there entire, the colonies, by refusing one condition, would destroy all. I wish, therefore, for an open conference with America. I think that there is so much affection still left in that country towards this, that barely to enter on a discussion is more than half the business. My plan is to open such a discussion. I shall therefore propose, it, An act of parliament to vest commissioners with very ample powers for this purpose. The powers must be ample; limited powers can produce no good. They must be ample, as to the persons with whom they treat, and as to the objects concerning which they treat. As to the persons, the present commissioners have great powers; but the present act must be full and clear, containing no doubt; no doubt whether they shall treat with the Congress, with rebels, with persons actually in arms; whether with a general assembly of all the colonies, or with the assembly of a particular colony. The only rule to guide the commissioners must be, whether the persons with whom they treat, are authorized so to do. I shall therefore propose, that such persons shall be described in the most general words. There should be no *etiquette*; the time for that is past. As to the objects of the treaty, they should be as generally described. The commissioners should be enabled to treat on all grievances existing, or supposed to exist in the laws of the colonies, or in the statutes of this realm, on all matters, provisions or things, and on all aids and future contributions to be furnished by the colonies: for I have reason to think, from the declarations of the colonies, that they are willing to contribute their share to the public support. This will make the tie stronger between us. Those who derive an advantage from a State, ought to contribute to the burdens of it. The execution of these powers must

receive the subsequent sanction of parliament; but there are some points in which the opinion of the commissioners must prevail immediately, as the granting of general and particular pardons, or a cessation of hostilities. They must have also another immediate power more great and extensive, founded on the example of an act passed in the reign of Charles II. the power of suspending acts of parliament. The colonies have demanded to be put in the situation they were in 1763. I doubt they will never be placed exactly in the same situation, but perhaps they may be placed in one not much less advantageous. The statutes since that year are many; many of them are beneficial to the colonies; many necessary for their dependance as to trade; and many ought to be repealed, all perhaps should be revised. I would give the commissioners full power to take them all into their consideration, and to suspend such as should be repealed. There is another provision, which is, perhaps, a matter of convenience only, they should have a power of appointing governors in these colonies where his Majesty was used to appoint them. I shall propose to limit the duration of this act to June 1, 1779. If I was to stop here, the plan would be certainly defective; defective in not offering an inducement to the colonies to treat with us. They must give up their claim of independency; but to induce them to do this, they must be certain of something fixed and decided. If it is necessary to hold out an inducement to all the colonies collectively, it is equally necessary to hold it out to each colony in particular. Though some may not renounce their independency, some may; and it will not be said, that if the commissioners cannot treat with all, they shall not treat with any. The colonies must have some other inducement than mere hopes. Before the war broke out, I offered a reconciliatory proposition to America; I offered it before the sword was drawn. The ground upon which I made it was, that it was just the colonies should contribute to the support of government, but that their taxation by parliament occasioned jealousies in them of our attempting to throw the burden off our own shoulders upon them, and of endangering the security of their assemblies. This proposition was unfortunate; it was rendered suspicious by the supposition of a variety of cases; it was misrepresented or misunderstood. I thought it necessary to show them, that we were not fighting for taxation, for I never thought that such taxation would be very beneficial to us. The stamp was the best duty that could be laid; and even that would not have produced much, so great was the aversion to it. My intent of making this proposition was, to prevent the war, by preserving our rights, and freeing them from their jealousies. In many of the assemblies there was an inclination to have accepted it, but they referred it to the Congress. The Congress treated it as unreasonable and invidious, and rejected it. War began, and my intention was, from the beginning, at the moment of victory, to have proposed the same proposition, in terms obviating all the misrepresentations and misunderstandings concerning it. The principal objections to it were,

I. That the colonies had a sole right of granting their own money. My proposition looked to a permanent revenue to be granted by them in the first instance. My idea was, that they should grant their own money in proportion to our grants, rising and falling with them.

II. That it was unreasonable, because the quantity was not ascertained; but their contribution was afterwards to undergo the revision of parliament. This was not my idea:—my intent was, that their proportion should be settled, and being settled, should always remain the same.

III. That it was invidious, because the ministry intended to get one colony to bid against another. I had no such intent. The Congress might have settled what each colony should offer. I will now hold out to the colonies a cessation of the exercise of taxation, and I will not subject it to any conditions, or to the demand of any specific contribution. My proposition, therefore, is, an act of parliament, grounded on the jealousies of the exercise of the right of taxation, and on their declarations of their being willing to contribute, to take away this exercise absolutely, trusting to the negotiations of our commissioners for gaining contributions from the colonies; but I did not mean to make their grant a *sine qua non*, but will declare, by an act of parliament, that for the future the parliament will not tax the colonies for the purpose of raising a revenue; and if on account of commerce, that the money so raised shall be appropriated to the use of the colonies. I propose this, as an explicit declaration. It may be said, should not the colonies give up their claim of independency? The renunciation of that claim is implied in the act itself. It may be said also, if you give up taxation, what is there left to fight for? I never thought taxation a sufficient object for the contest, and upon this idea I made my proposition before the war begun. But I fought for the dependence of America. The Congress claimed independency. The colony of Massachusetts Bay claimed it, and a great outrage was committed on our merchants. The war has cost us more than any revenue which could have been raised from America by parliament. The contest was for supremacy. But it may be urged, that concessions in time of war, of so public a nature, are dangerous. It is the misfortune of this war, involved in so many parliamentary points, to require public steps. The state of our resources is well known. This concess-

tion cannot, therefore, in this respect, be prejudicial to us. Our army and navy are great: our ills can be repaired: the necessary supplies can be raised: and our customs are not diminished. But why was not concession made before? I am willing that my past conduct should be inspected. I never proposed any tax. When I was unfortunate enough (for I will still use the word, notwithstanding the use made of it) to be placed in my present office, I thought there was a gleam of hope, that the colonies would return to their duty. My maxim was to say nothing about America; neither to propose or repeal taxes; neither to advance or recede; but to remain in total silence. But when it was necessary to give the East-India company a power of selling their tea in America, I did not think it right to repeal the tax. I however diminished it. A repeal would have been of no service: for America was afraid, that the East-India company would undersell their smugglers. A monopoly was also urged. They had in fact, the commodity cheaper than they had it before. If they deemed this a grievance, they were ready to make any thing a grievance. When the war was begun, I thought it necessary to accompany our forces with a pacific commission.—And the commissioners were men of abilities, men of honour, men of a pacific disposition, men trusted by America, who were the most likely to bring about a reconciliation. But this commission produced no effect, because the claims of America were so distant. When the sword was drawn, why did I not make my proposition? I own I thought that the war would soon have ended, and I should have made it, had America been reduced to unconditional submission; but misfortunes, misconduct, or a greater natural force in America than was expected, and which no man could foresee, have carried on the war to its present length. I will never own that administration has deceived the public, in wanting to delude them into measures, which they thought were ineffectual. The information laid before parliament was full: Parliament had every paper necessary to found its judgment; no papers were retained, but those only, which, for the sake of the writers, would have been dangerous to have exposed. But the deception is, that Administration said, that in their opinion, the war would soon be at an end. Our army and navy were great; Sir W. Howe's army was generally superior to Washington's; and General Burgoyne's army, when at Fort Edward, was stronger than the enemy's force. Parliament knew the force sent out as well as the Minister. Ministry promised that the army should be supplied. The army has been supplied. Ministry promised to raise the money necessary for the services. The money has been raised. The public therefore has been deceived by the event. It may be asked, what is likely to be the effect of this proposition? The real effect I cannot say, but it is a right thing to endeavour to bring about a peace. I do not see that any other concession can be made without admitting the complete independency of America. But what would be the effect of that independency? I cannot see into futurity; but it is big with many possible evils. Independency, with a cordial love between us, is one thing; with an union with our enemies, fatal. From their independency a danger arises from a great naval power; a danger also to our other possessions: I do not think that we should yield to it, till our resources are much lowered. Independency is not beneficial to America. She cannot be so happy, so easy, cannot have such personal liberty, as if she remains dependent on us. If independent, she must be loaded with heavy burthens, more heavy than she had; her personal liberty will not be so great. Her present situation, as compared with ours, is ten times more grievous. Her farmers are ruined; when all the necessaries of life fell at prices the most high, they are compelled to sell the produce of their land at a small price in comparison. I was assured that at Albany, tea, a necessary article there, sold at 16 dollars per pound; and salt at 30 dollars per bushel. Thinking that men in this situation will be inclined to peace upon just, and reasonable terms, I move the House for leave to bring in two bills, &c. &c.

*DRAUGHT of a BILL for declaring the intentions of the Parliament of Great-Britain, concerning the exercise of the right of imposing taxes within his Majesty's colonies, provinces, and plantations in North-America.*

WHEREAS, the exercise of the right of taxation by the Parliament of Great-Britain, for the purpose of raising a revenue in his Majesty's colonies, provinces, and plantations in North-America, has been found by experience to occasion great uneasiness and disorders, and has by sundry misrepresentations been made the means of misleading many of his Majesty's faithful subjects, who yet acknowledge the justice of contributing to the common defence of the empire, provided such contributions should be raised under the authority of the General Court, or General Assembly, of each respective colony, province, or plantation: AND WHEREAS, in order, as well as to remove the said uneasiness, and to quiet the minds of his Majesty's subjects, who may be disposed to return to their allegiance, as to restore the peace and welfare of his Majesty's dominions, It is expedient to declare, that the King and Parliament of Great-Britain will not impose any duty, tax, or assessment, for the purpose of raising a revenue within any of the said colonies, provinces, or plantations:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY, That it may be declared and enacted, and it is hereby declared and

enacted, &c. That from and after the passing of this act, the King and Parliament of Great-Britain will not impose any duty, tax, or assessment whatsoever, payable within any of his Majesty's colonies, provinces, and plantations in North-America, except only such duties as it may be expedient to impose for the regulation of commerce, the net-produce of such duties to be always paid and applied to, and for, the use of the colony, province, or plantation, in which the same shall be respectively levied, in such manner as other duties collected by the authority of the respective General Courts, or General Assemblies, of such colonies, provinces, or plantations, are ordinarily paid and applied.

*DRAUGHT of a BILL to enable his Majesty to appoint commissioners with sufficient powers to treat, consult, and agree, upon the means of quieting the disorders now subsisting in certain of the colonies, plantations, and provinces of North-America.*

FOR the quieting and extinguishing of divers jealousies and misapprehensions of danger to their liberties and legal rights, which have misled many of his Majesty's subjects in the colonies, provinces, and plantations, of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, and for a fuller manifestation of the just and gracious purposes of his Majesty and his Parliament, to maintain and secure all his subjects in a clear and perfect enjoyment of such liberties and rights; BE IT ENACTED, &c. That persons to be appointed by his Majesty, under the Great Seal of Great-Britain, or any of them, shall by force of this act, have full power, commission, and authority to treat, consult, and agree, with such body or bodies political and corporate, or with such assembly or assemblies of men, or with such person or persons, as in their wisdom and discretion they shall think meet, of and concerning any grievances, or complaints of grievances, existing, or supposed to exist, in the government of any of the said colonies, provinces, or plantations, respectively, or in the laws and statutes of this realm respecting the same; and of or concerning any aid or contribution to be furnished by all or any of the colonies, provinces, or plantations, respectively, for the common defence of this realm, and the dominions thereunto belonging; and of and concerning such other regulations, provisions, matters, and things, as upon mature deliberation of the said commissioners, or any of them, shall be thought necessary or convenient for the honour of his Majesty, and the common good of all his subjects.

PROVIDED ALSO, AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND DECLARED, That no regulation, provision, matter or thing so proposed, treated, consulted, or agreed, shall have any other force or effect, or be carried further into execution, than is hereinafter mentioned and provided, until the same shall have been approved by Parliament.

PROVIDED ALSO, AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That in order to facilitate the good purposes of this act, it shall and may be lawful for the said commissioners, or any of them, from time to time, as they shall judge it convenient, to order and proclaim a cessation of hostilities, on the part of his Majesty's troops, in any of the said colonies or plantations, or any part thereof, for any time, and under any conditions or restrictions, which they shall think convenient, and such order and proclamation to revoke and annul in the same manner and form, according to their discretion.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it shall be lawful for the said commissioners, or any of them, by proclamation under their respective hands and seals, from time to time, to suspend the operation and effects of a certain Act of Parliament, made and passed in the 16th year of the reign of his present Majesty, for prohibiting all trade and intercourse with certain colonies and plantations therein named, and for the other purposes therein also mentioned, or any of the provisions or restrictions therein contained, for such convenient time as the said commissioners shall think proper, specifying in such proclamation at what times or places respectively, and with what exceptions and restrictions, the said suspension shall take effect, and the said suspension and proclamation in the same manner and form to annul and revoke according to their discretion.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That the said commissioners, or any of them, may, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to suspend in such places, and for such times as they shall think fit, during the continuance of this act, the operation and effect of all or any of the act or acts of Parliament which have passed since the 10th day of February 1763, and which relate to any of his Majesty's said colonies, provinces, or plantations in North-America, so far as the same does relate to them, or the operation and effect of any clause, or any provision or matter therein contained, so far as such clauses, provisions, or matters relate to any of the said colonies, provinces, or plantations.

AND IT IS HEREBY ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said commissioners, or any of them, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to grant a pardon or pardons to any number or description of persons within the said colonies, provinces, or plantations.

And that no lett or hindrances may happen from the vacancy of the office of Governor and Commander in Chief in any of the said colonies, provinces, or plantations respectively, or from the absence of such officer from his government, BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That the said commissioners, or any of them, shall have full power and authority in any of the said colonies, provinces, or plantations respectively, wherein his Majesty hath usually heretofore nominated and appointed a Governor, to nominate and appoint by any instrument under their hands and seals, a proper person to be the Governor and Commander in Chief in, and for any such colony, province, or plantation, to have, hold, and exercise, during his Majesty's pleasure, the said office of Governor and Commander in Chief, in and for such colony or plantation respectively, with all such powers and authorities as any Governor of such province heretofore appointed by his Majesty might or could have exercised, in as full and complete manner and form, as if such Governor and Commander in Chief had been nominated and appointed by his Majesty's letters patent or commission, and for that purpose if need be, to revoke, annul, and make void any commission or letters patent heretofore granted, for appointing any such Governor and Commander in Chief.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this act shall continue to be in force until the first day of June which shall be in the year 1779.

Philadelphia, 14th April, 1778.

Published by order of the Commander in Chief,  
ROBERT MACKENZIE, Secretary.

TRENTON, April 29.

Mr. COLLINS,

WHOEVER abuses the glorious intelligence contained in Lord North's speech that Britain is no match for America to the infernal purpose of reducing us to the same bondage or dependence, which our enemies themselves openly acknowledge we have extricated ourselves from, ought to be treated as a traitor to his country. No one, I presume, is against an honourable peace; but instead of relaxing in our exertions, now is the critical time for collecting our utmost force. For if Britain is still for war, of which there can be no doubt by her straining every nerve to levy troops, it certainly behoves us to be prepared. If for peace, our preparations are equally necessary, as that alone can enable us to treat with honour, and secure our independence.

I am your humble servant,  
H. I.

The following Acts were passed at the last sitting of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of this state.

1. An act to divorce Ebenezer Stiles, of the county of Morris, from his wife.
2. An act for regulating and limiting the prices of labour, and of sundry articles of produce, manufacture, and trade; and to prevent forestalling, regrating, and engrossing.
3. An act for constituting a Council of Safety.
4. An act for the better regulating the quartering of soldiers, and furnishing of carriages, horses, and other necessaries for the army.
5. An act to raise a fund by taxation for discharging the debts, and defraying the necessary expences of the State of New-Jersey.
6. An act to repeal the 2d and 3d sections of an act, intitled, "An act for completing the four battalions of this State in the Continental service," as far as they relate to the hiring of substitutes.
7. An act to repeal an act, intitled, "An act for erecting salt-works, and manufacturing salt within the State of New-Jersey."
8. An act to exempt four men to be employed at the powder-mill belonging to Jonas Phillips and Joseph Lindly, in the county of Morris.
9. An act to revive and continue the process and proceedings of the Courts of Common Pleas and General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the county of Bergen, and to alter the place of holding the same.
10. An act for speedy and effectual recruiting of the four New-Jersey regiments in the service of the United States.
11. An act for granting a bounty upon wool, flax, and hemp, raised and sold in the State of New-Jersey.
12. An act for regulating trainings and arraying of the militia.
13. An act to empower and direct the Commissioners of the Loan-Offices, in the respective counties in the State of New-Jersey, to pay certain monies into the Treasury, and also applying certain monies now therein.
14. An act for taking charge of, and leasing the real estates, and for forfeiting the personal estates of certain fugitives and offenders, and for enlarging and continuing the powers of Commissioners appointed to seize and dispose of such personal estates, and for ascertaining and discharging the lawful debts and claims thereon.
15. An act further to provide for the cloathing of the New-Jersey regiments, in the service of the United States.
16. An act to defray sundry incidental charges.

We have certain intelligence that General Howe will fail in a few days for England, and that Henry Clinton will take the command at Philadelphia during his absence.

\* \* \* New Advertisements and Articles of Intelligence omitted this week for want of room, to be in our next.

MY LORD,  
I HAVE just read your Lordship's speech, and draughts of two acts of parliament for composing the disorders in America, and beg leave to congratulate your Lordship upon your partial recovery from the delirium under which you have laboured ever since you began the war in America.

You say that you have been deceived in your accounts of the internal strength of America. This was your own fault. Had you consulted honest men, or the petitions and addresses of the Congress, instead of the vagabonds and rascals who were banished from their native country, you would not have been forced to make that most humiliating acknowledgement.

You deny your having ever been an advocate for TAXING America. Here you forget that when you failed in collecting the strength of Britain to enforce the supremacy of parliament over this country, you unfurled the banner of SUBSTANTIAL REVENUE as the only argument that could weigh with the nation to lend their money or spill their blood in reducing us to unconditional submission. We remember too well the effect it had upon the deluded people of Britain, to be terrified with your twelve subscription regiments now you have removed TAXATION from among the number of the objects of the war.

You attempt to console the nation whom you have ruined by talking to them of the greatness of their army and navy—We thank you for your encomiums upon them both. What must be the "internal strength" of America when that power is not sufficient to conquer us? You talk of the distresses of the people of America.—It is true, my Lord, the States which have been the seats of the war have felt many very severe calamities. But, my Lord, you have now the fewest friends in those States. The farmers whom you have ruined are your worst enemies. The necessities of life abound with us. Domestic industry has nearly supplied the want of foreign trade. Salt is now manufactured on all our sea coasts, as well as brought to us in French, Dutch and Danish bottoms in such quantities as to be sold in some places for four, and in no place for more than twelve dollars a bushel. Your Lordship was unfortunate in fixing the highest price of salt among us at thirty dollars. It has been sold at sixty dollars; but the men who bought it paid for it cheerfully, as the temporary price of their liberty. They would have paid five hundred dollars for it rather than pay a penny to your Lordship for a whole cargo, if that penny would have been deemed an acknowledgment of their allegiance to the crown of Britain. We have paid too, my Lord, not only sixteen, but in some cases thirty-two dollars for a pound of tea—But, my Lord, these dollars were often obtained by the sale of British merchantmen, or by supplying your natural enemies with the produce of our country.

You talk of general and particular pardons.—You would have insulted us had the propositions of pardon been reciprocal between the two contending empires. The power of pardoning is lodged only in the United States. Your king, your parliament, and your nation, are stained with the innocent blood of our fathers and children. We have done you no injury, except in repelling the injuries you intended for us. We commit you to the justice of the Arbitrator of nations. We wish not to be the instruments of executing vengeance upon you for your outrages upon us. Britons may enjoy alone the pleasure of shedding kindred blood—We shudder at the thoughts of being your executioners. That business, we believe, is reserved for your old enemies the French.

After a struggle of three years, the beam on which were suspended the fate of both countries, has at last turned in favour of America. The scale has not, it is true, yet reached the ground, but it is hastening thither with great rapidity. Do you think we estimate our strength so lightly, or reason so absurdly, as not to know that the same exertions which forced you to repeal acts of parliament—to cancel the name of rebels in your propositions of peace, and to offer us pardons, will in a short time force you to acknowledge our independence, and to sue for an alliance with us. Yes, my Lord, the gradation in shame was too great, or you would have done it this year; but it is now too late. We are now united (we believe) to your powerful rivals the French, and we glory in the connection. We have felt how great her weight and influence are, compared with yours, in the courts of Europe. We know how many ties of interest there are to connect us together. Our resources for a navy alone must bind France to us for ever. We have nothing to fear from ancient prejudices in favour of her religion, laws, or government; and therefore we shall be in no danger of improper innovations in the religion, laws, or government of our country, by an intimate union with her. With such an ally as France in Europe, what power will dare to molest us?

Her wealth—her numerous armies—her military spirit—the nature of her government—the genius of her court, and even her ambition, will all serve to guarantee to us a perpetual enjoyment of safety and peace.

Alas! my Lord, the destruction of Britain is sealed. Prepare yourself for a block on Tower-Hill. There is still virtue enough, I hope, in Britain to demand a few sacrifices for their waste of blood and treasure; and I still think so favourably of some of the regiments now in America, as to believe that they will contend with each other who shall do duty on the day of your execution. They were unacquainted with disgrace and infamy till your Lordship directed their arms against the liberties of America.

I leave your Lordship with your prayer book and chaplain, while I address a few words to you, O! my beloved fellow-citizens and brother freemen of America!—See at last your labours are nearly ended; the monster tyranny has received a deadly blow. One more campaign will destroy him, provided you exert yourselves properly. View the peace and liberty, the transporting liberty that are before you. Trample under your feet the base and insulting offers of both, that have been made to you by the parliament of Britain. Consider the dignity you have acquired by becoming members of free and independent States. The distresses of the war, and the infancy of your governments have prevented your enjoying many of those blessings of freedom which will necessarily follow a state of peace. But remember that the blessings of freedom and a state of peace can only be obtained and secured by the union and INDEPENDENCE of our American States.

CAMILLUS.

THE NOTED HORSE  
GRANBY,

LATE the property of Messrs. Thomas Lowery and Gershom Lee, of full size, is to COVER the ensuing season at Kills-Hall, within two miles of Bound Brook, where Mr. John Van Horne formerly lived, now in the possession of Mr. Nicholas Perine, at Sixteen Dollars the season; money to be paid when the mare is taken away. Good pasture may be had for mares at Half a Dollar per week, and good attendance will be given by JONATHAN DUNN.

Somerset county, March 20, 1778. 4w\*

STOLEN in the night of the 19th instant, out of the stables of the subscribers, living in Evesham, Burlington county, the following creatures, viz. a large redish roan MARE about 15 hands high, one of her hind feet white, trots and paces, a short switch tail, has been hurt by the saddle upon her withers, and has two feathers one on each side of her neck nearly opposite; about nine or ten years old. The other a lightish bay GELDING five years old this spring, trots and paces, shod before, of a heavy low carriage, about 14 hands high. Whoever secures the thief or thieves in any gaol of the United States, so that they may be convicted, shall have Three Pounds reward, and the above described creatures recovered, shall have Sixteen Dollars for each, and all reasonable charges paid by AMOS SHARP, JOHN SHARP.

4w\* April 24, 1778.

To be Sold by Publick Vendue,

ON Thursday, the 7th of May next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, by the subscriber, sundry household furniture, viz. Tables, chairs, andirons, shovel and tongs; hogheads, barrels, &c. an eight day clock; two sets of surveying instruments; books of various kinds; chocolate, coffee, and many other things, too tedious to mention. Attendance will be given, and the conditions made known, by THO MOODY, 7/6.

WAS taken up the 6th of October last, a BLACK HORSE branded on the near buttock with a horse-shoe and some letters but unintelligible, has a slit in the near ear, and very grey about the head and mane; supposed to be 20 years; was badly foundered when he was taken up. The owner is requested to come, prove his property, pay charges and take him away. NEILLE MAGILL.

Hopewell township, Hunterdon county, April 26, 1778. 1w\*

WILL COVER, at Obadiah Meeker's, between Newark and Elizabeth-Town, for sixteen dollars the season, six dollars the single leap, and twenty-two dollars to warrant the mare with foal, the beautiful horse MAJOR GENERAL, allowed by the best judges to be equal in size, figure and activity to any horse on the Continent. Major General was got by Granby, his dam by Bullock, and his grandam by Frederick. He has all the beauties of these capital horses, without their blemishes. He is rising five years old, 15 hands and half high, seven eighths blood, a dark bay, with two white feet, a star and snip. The colts of his getting are esteemed equal to any whatever. Good care will be taken of mares. Pasture at half a dollar per week, and good attendance given by the subscriber OBADIAH MEEKER. 3w||

N. B. The money to be paid when the season is over. Those mares that go by the season, and do not prove with foal, shall be entitled to a single leap gratis the season following.

A Strong four-horse WAGGON to be sold, enquire of the Printer. 1w||

GOOD Encouragement will be given to any man who will hire as a journeyman for one, two, three or six months, or a year. The person will be exempted from military duty. Enquire of Daniel Smith, saddler, at Morris-Town. 2w||

Freehold, April 17, 1778.

ALL persons that have any demands against the estate of MARY BASS, deceased, are desired to bring in their accounts to the subscriber, living near Monmouth Court-house, by the twentieth day of May next, that they may be settled.

JOHN LONGSTREET, Execut. 2w||

TO BE SOLD,

AT publick VENDUE, for ready money only, on Monday the 18th day of May, at the house of Robert Norris on Whatnung Plains, several tracts of land, lying and being in Morris-town and Hanover, on Whatnung Plains: A plantation whereon Thomas Coe now lives, about 131 acres of good land, 10 acres of meadow land and more may easily be made; there is a good frame house and barn on said tract, with a good orchard: Another tract of about 3 acres, with a good house on it, very convenient and commodious for a merchant: A lot of land about 8 acres, with a young orchard of near 50 apple-trees on it: A lot of wood-land, lying on Whatnung mountain; likewise a very good forge-fire with all the privileges thereto belonging. The above-said lands and premises were formerly the property of William Demayne, absconded, and to be sold by us the subscribers, by virtue of an attachment levied on said land by suit of Thomas Coe, plaintiff, against William Demayne, defendant. The vendue to begin at ten o'clock in the morning of said day, where due attendance will be given by us

JOSEPH WOOD, } Auditors.  
JOSHUA LAMBERT, }  
RICHARD JOHNSON, }

N. B. All persons indebted to the estate of William Demayne, absconded, either by bond, bill, or book debt, are requested to make speedy payment to the Auditors by the above-mentioned time, or else they may expect to be dealt with as the law directs.

Morris-town, April 20, 1778.

Wanted immediately, in Trenton,

A SCHOOL-MASTER, who can come well recommended for his abilities and moral conduct. Such a person will meet with good encouragement. Apply to the Printer hereof.

BY virtue of a writ of fieri facias to me directed, I will be exposed to sale by way of public vendue, the 16th of June next ensuing, at the premises, a valuable plantation situate in Readington, Hunterdon county, New-Jersey, whereon the widow Vander-speigel now lives, containing about 300 acres. There is on it a good dwelling house and barn, a good bearing orchard, good tilable land, a large quantity of good meadow, and much more may be easily made, well watered and in a healthy part of the country. Vendue to begin at 12 o'clock, and the conditions made known by JOS. INSLEE, Sheriff.

Hunterdon County, April 13, 1778. 9w\*

YOUNG SELIM,

STANDS at the stable of Benjamin Slack, junior, in Maidenhead, in the State of New-Jersey, and will COVER MARES the ensuing Summer at three pounds the season, forty shillings the first leap and ten shillings for every leap afterwards, or four pounds to warrant a foal. Selim is full bred, his sire was Old Selim the celebrated racer, his dam a full bred Dorset mare, is fifteen and a half hands high, very gay and handsome. Good pasture will be provided. Maidenhead, April 6, 1778. 2w\*

The famous and well-bred own HORSE

TRAVELLOR,

NOW rising eight years old, will cover the ensuing season at the plantation of AMOS SWAN on the Scotch Plains, a short half mile from the meeting-house on the road leading to Springfield. TRAVELLOR is of a full size, fifteen hands and an half high, well set to his height, his colour is a dark claret, and very beautiful. He sprung from the best blood in Great-Britain; his pedigree is the same as True Briton, they being brothers. His carriage, beauty, behaviour and spirit, make him equal if not superior to any horse within this State. He is to cover at TEN DOLLARS a mare, and a Dollar to the groom, the money to be paid at the time of covering, or before taken away if required. Good pasture will be provided for Mares at Half a Dollar per week. AMOS SWAN. 3w||

SIXTEEN DOLLARS REWARD.

DESERTED from the first New-Jersey regiment, a certain JOHN BARLOW, about five feet eight or nine inches high, well set, and about twenty-seven years of age. Also a certain HUGH WELSH, about five feet seven or eight inches high, of a dark complexion, and has a down look. Whoever takes up the said deserters, and delivers them to the subscriber, or to any officer of said regiment, shall have the above reward, and reasonable charges, or Eight Dollars for either, paid by J. O. S. JAY, Lieut.