

NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 1779.

TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA.

I HAVE served in your army from the beginning of the war, and now, while I am indulging the pleasing thought of our having nearly completed the salvation of our country, I hear a clamour that all is going to ruin. I therefore beg leave to speak a few words. It is agreed I think by all our talkers and writers, that the depreciation of our money and morals, is the only dangerous symptom in our nation. And shall we, like dastard souls, think this difficulty unformountable? And after bearing millions, sink under the weight of a feather! Let us not stain our glory by ranking this among difficulties.—It is even infamous in us, who are honoured by Heaven to defend the rights of mankind and posterity, who are pursuing national salvation and solid glory, to hesitate and say, “*there is a lion in the way.*”—When our General leads us on to attack the enemy, we don’t pause and ask if there are not difficulties to encounter—we know that nothing glorious can be done without labour, hazard or expence.—In like manner, the people must follow and put in execution the orders of our Supreme Council. Let Congress direct the means and mode of redress for the depreciation of our currency, and let the people set about it instantly, and pursue it with vigour, and the *mighty* difficulty so much talked of will soon vanish. There is nothing to oppose it but a *rascally* (pardon the expression) love of *self*. And shall this dirty grovelling passion for *earth*, bury all our glorious designs for the happiness of living millions and unborn ages!—Then witness against us, ye beings who people other worlds—and let us sink (like *satan* in *Milton*) “*nine times the space that measures day and night,*” nor any longer stain the annals of the world.

The depreciation of morals is an evil big with ruin, but like the other, admits a cure. Vices, like noxious weeds, commonly have a small beginning; but if suffered to take root and spread, they destroy the beauty and happiness of creation. A great deal has been said and written against profane swearing, but what avails a clamour? A remedy must be applied that will make men *feel*; for if there was not a defect in their *mentality*, they would not practice a vice as destitute of honour, pleasure or profit, as *satan* is of beauty or virtue—a vice which is the *stib* of conversation, disgusting to the virtuous and vile, and condemned by the wisdom of the whole universe. Therefore they must *feel* before they will reform. The remedy is with the PEOPLE, they must never dishonour themselves by chusing men to represent them who dishonour God or their country. Let no man be exalted to a seat in Congress who has not a soul too great to countenance *any* vice; and when none but the virtuous and wise sit in Congress, you will see wisdom and virtue prevailing in every inferior station. I believe there is as much patriotism and wisdom in Congress as in any political assembly on earth, but it wounds my feelings when I hear of some in that august Council who set examples unworthy of imitation: I hope they are few, very few in number. And that State should blush which sends a *blemished* character to sit in that Council, which ought to be intirely composed of wisdom and virtue. There is nothing wanting to remove all our national difficulties, and to complete the happiness of America, but a noble exertion of those means which God hath put into our hands. Then let us make this exertion, and our independence will be secure and our fame immortal.

May, 1779.

A SOLDIER.

P. S. Many have endeavoured to rouse their countrymen to exertions by painting the wickedness of our enemies, and the horrors of tyranny; as they are both too black for description, I will not attempt it. But the horrid murder of hundreds and thousands of our brethren in the goals and dungeons of the British *monsters*, ought to be ever fresh in our minds! And while we contemplate the numberless tortures inflicted on our brave and virtuous citizens, we shall naturally consider what our portion would be, should Heaven in wrath permit the accursed foe to prevail over us.—

Were there not many innocent persons in Britain who might suffer by the continuance of the war, I query whether it would not be an offence to Heaven to make any peace with the tyrant, until we had scourged him off the face of the earth.

For the NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

OBSERVATIONS on some important principles of government, and applied to the AMERICAN STATES.

IN the Spirit of *Laocus* I have somewhere seen the just remark, that monarchies ought to comprehend

a large extension of territory; but that republics should be restricted by narrow limits. The thought is founded on a principle that the members of a popular government should be continually availed of the situation and condition of every part. And as the freemen, strictly speaking, are all legislators, they ought to know every thing of consequence that may affect it, be easily apprized of one another’s sentiments, to act with harmony and dispatch, prevent factions, conspiracies and machinations against the State.—*Caesar* vanquished the free States of Gaul; his motto—*divide & impera*; divide and conquer: But though a degree of diffentions and oppositions, under some circumstances, and a political lethargy under others, impend certain ruin to a free State, they are, on the contrary, the great supporters of monarchy.

How great the extent of a State may be, without inconvenience, is a matter of judgment—it in some measure depends on the number of inhabitants that may probably find means of support in it. A republic that is wholly commerical, and acts principally as a factor for other nations, will naturally be very limited, which for centuries hath been the case with *Venice*; and universally, when it is so, the inhabitants should be very contiguous, settled principally in cities and towns. But where a republic much depends on agriculture, as is the case with *Switzerland*, (being 200 miles in extent) its inhabitants are necessarily more scattered. Whether or no our veneration for ancient commonwealths is generally excessive, I pretend not to say. It is true, that many modern and wise politicians have placed them before us as great examples—But *Achiva*, so famed in history, of which *Athens* was the capital, extended only about forty miles.—*Laconia*, its metropolis being *Sparta*, not thirty miles.—The *Roman* commonwealth, in its first and purest ages, commanded a territory about as large; and a city, with only its suburbs, composed the *Theban* republic.

Neither is it a matter of essential consequence respecting the particular number of inhabitants that reside in a State. Nor do I know of any reason to limit, as, if I mistake not, *Plato* has done in his ideal republic, the number to one hundred thousand, provided the government is salutary, as many will reside in it as can be supported with convenience.

There is an ambition in all governments, those that are termed free, as well as others, to extend their territorial jurisdiction. But it is a principle that neither terminates in their reputation or felicitude as republics, being the result of a false spirit for national agrandizement. Proper ambition will lead republican legislators not to increase dominion, but satisfied with a moderate territory, their steady aim will be to make the people as powerful and happy as possible. The institutions of *Lycurgus*, *Solon*, or *Numa*, never enjoined the spreading of conquest; but were confined to internal circumstances—the regularity, the union and strength of the inhabitants. The despotic and ambitious views of those only, compared with mahomet, could in the organization of government maintain the principle of extending territorial power.—Reason and example, the most cogent arguments, plainly evince that limited dominion is best adapted to free States, though some have swerved from the principle, but in swerving have destroyed themselves.

With propriety these observations may be applied to some of the American States, that have a surprizing itch for territorial agrandizement. Excuse me for suspecting that the same spirit that leads them to maintain a title over endless tracts in the western world, might with little improvement induce them, were it practicable, to gain dominion in the north and south—it would, because in the first case they mistake the real interests of society, the ease and internal security of a small tho’ vigorous and compact body, for unbounded dominion. Tell me—how do these expect that their massy governments will be fwayed? By the Representatives of a free people? I challenge every age to produce an instance where a republic has been free, that covered a territory extensive eight hundred miles. The *Roman* government is not an exception; it was free only before it began to be considerably enlarged. Example not only, as I observed, but reason and policy point out the impossibility. The Representatives ought always to be under the eyes of their constituents—but how can that be, when they are six hundred miles, perhaps twice that distance apart?—days before one part of the State is availed of the events in the other. Such a State, while it bears the name of republic, will be subject to the influence of a few; consequently, tho’ not the form, yet it will have the essence of an aristocracy: This is so simple and clear a point, founded on the natural principles of government, that a single

reflection is convincing, without a long deduction of reasons.

An additional remark I beg leave to mention; States that are joined in a confederacy ought to preserve a proper equality and balance, should have nearly the same strength and principles, that no particular one should be too overgrown in power, added to a proportionate degree of ambition. Now, conceive of a State forty or fifty miles in extent, confederated with another, containing at least six or eight hundred miles.—Which has the advantage or disadvantage? Where, in this case, is the balance of power? Some, indeed, of the American States have an ideal claim to the western ocean, founded on the supposed construction of antient charters.—If this was the intention of the English kings, still the validity of those charters may be justly disputed.—For what power can grant a territory independently owned by others? and how can English charters cover a soil the natural property of western savages? But even allowing that those implied grants were legal when made; yet, as the liberty and happiness of the people ought to be the only objects of these States, those claims ought to be quitted—for if they are maintained and supported, the natural consequences we have already pointed out. Every Legislator in these States ought to be a patriot, to study the interests of his own State, in relation to the union, the interests and prospects of individuals having no concern in such a momentous matter.—

THE INQUIRER.

Trenton, May 29, 1779.

TO THE INHABITANTS of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

FRIENDS and COUNTRYMEN,

THE present situation of public affairs demands your most serious attention, and particularly the great and increasing depreciation of your currency, requires the immediate, strenuous, and united efforts of all true friends to their country, for preventing an extension of the mischiefs that have already flowed from that source.

America, without arms, ammunition, discipline, revenue, government, or ally, almost totally stripped of commerce, and in the weakness of youth, as it were with a “*staff and a sling*” only, dared “*in the name of the Lord of Hosts*” to engage a gigantic adversary, prepared at all points, boasting of his strength, and of whom even mighty warriors “*were greatly afraid.*”

For defraying the expences of this uncommon war, your representatives in Congress were obliged to emit paper money; an expedient that you knew to have been before generally and successfully practised on this continent.

They were very sensible of the inconveniencies with which too frequent emissions would be attended, and endeavoured to avoid them. For this purpose they established loan-offices so early as in Oct. 1776, and have from that time to this repeatedly and earnestly solicited you to lend them money on the faith of the United States. The sums received on loan have nevertheless proved inadequate to the public exigencies. Our enemies prosecuting the war by sea and land with implacable fury and with some success, taxation at home and borrowing abroad, in the midst of difficulties and dangers, were alike impracticable. Hence the continued necessity of new emissions.

But to this cause alone we do not impute the evil before mentioned. We have too much reason to believe it has been in part owing to the artifices of men who have hastened to enrich themselves by monopolizing the necessaries of life, and to the misconduct of inferior officers employed in the public service.

The variety and importance of the business entrusted to your delegates, and their constant attendance in Congress, necessarily disables them from investigating disorders of this kind. Justly apprehensive of them they by their several resolutions of the 22d of November and 26th of December 1777, and of the 3d and 9th of February 1778, recommended to the legislative and executive powers of these states a due attention to these interesting affairs. How far those recommendations have been complied with we will not undertake to determine; but we hold ourselves bound in duty to declare, that we are not convinced there has been as much diligence used in detecting and reforming abuses as there has been in committing or complaining of them.

With regard to monopolizers it is our opinion, that taxes judiciously laid on such articles as become the objects of engrossers, and these frequently collected, would operate against the pernicious tendency of such practices.

As to inferior officers employed in the public

ice, we ANXIOUSLY desire to call your most vigilant attention to their conduct with respect to every species of misbehaviour, whether proceeding from ignorance, negligence or fraud, and to the making of laws for inflicting exemplary punishments on all offenders of this kind.

We are sorry to hear that some persons are so slightly informed of their own interests as to suppose that it is advantageous to them to sell the produce of their farms at enormous prices, when a little reflection might convince them that it is injurious to those interests and the general welfare. If they expect thereby to purchase imported goods cheaper, they will be egregiously disappointed; for the merchants, who know they cannot obtain returns in gold, silver, or bills of exchange, but that their vessels if loaded here at all must be loaded with produce, will raise the price of what they have to sell, in proportion to the price of what they have to buy; and consequently the land holder can purchase no more foreign goods for the same quantity of his produce than he could before.

The evil, however, does not stop at this point. The land holder by acting on this mistaken calculation is only labouring to accumulate an immense debt by increasing the public expences, for the payment of which his estate is engaged, and to embarrass every measure adopted for vindicating his liberty and securing his prosperity.

As the harvests of this year, which by the divine goodness promise to be plentiful, will soon be gathered, and some new measures relating to your foreign concerns, with some arrangements relating to your domestic, are now under consideration, from which beneficial effects are expected, we entertain hopes that your affairs will acquire a much greater degree of regularity and energy than they have hitherto had.

But we should be highly criminal if we did not plainly tell you that those hopes are not founded wholly upon our own proceedings. These must be supported by your virtue, your wisdom, and your diligence. From the advantage of those seats in the national council with which you have honored us, we have a pleasing prospect of many blessings approaching this our native land. It is your patriotism must introduce and fix them here.

In vain will it be for your delegates to form plans of economy; to strive to stop a continuation of emissions by taxation or loan, if you do not zealously co-operate with them in promoting their designs, and use your utmost industry to prevent the waste of money in the expenditure, which your respective situations in the several places where it is expended, may enable you to do. A discharge of this duty and a compliance with recommendations for supplying money, might enable Congress to give speedy assurances to the public that no more emissions shall take place, and thereby close that source of depreciation.

Your governments being now established, and your ability to contend with your invaders ascertained, we have on the most mature deliberation judged it indispensably necessary to call upon you for forty-five millions of dollars, in addition to the fifteen millions required by a resolution of Congress of the 2d of January last, to be paid into the continental treasury before the 1st day of January next, in the same proportion, as to the quotas of the several states, with that for the said fifteen millions.

It appeared proper to us to fix the first day of next January for the payment of the whole; but as it is probable that some states, if not all, will raise part of the sums by installments or otherwise before that time, we recommend in the strongest manner the paying as much as can be collected as soon as possible into the continental treasury.

Though it is manifest that moderate taxation in times of peace will recover the credit of your currency, yet the encouragement which your enemies derive from its depreciation, and the present exigencies demand great and speedy exertions.

We are persuaded you will use all possible care to make the promotion of the general welfare interfere as little as may be with the ease and comfort of individuals; but tho' the raising these sums should press heavily on some of our constituents, yet the obligations we feel to your venerable clergy, the truly helpless widows and orphans, your most gallant, generous, meritorious officers and soldiers, the public faith and the common weal, so irresistibly urge us to attempt the appreciation of your currency, that we cannot withhold obedience to those authoritative sensations.

On this subject we will only add, that as the rules of justice are most pleasing to our infinitely good and gracious Creator, and an adherence to them most likely to obtain his favour, so they will ever be found to be the best and safest maxims of human policy.

To our constituents we submit the propriety and purity of our intentions, well knowing they will not forget, that we lay no burthens upon them, but those in which we participate with them—a happy sympathy, that pervades societies formed on the basis of equal liberty. Many cares, many labours, and may we not add, reproaches—are peculiar to us. These are the emoluments of our unsolicited stations; and with these we are content, if you approve our conduct. If you do not, we shall return to our private condition with no other regret, than that which will arise from our not having served you as acceptably and essentially as we wished and strove to do, though as cheerfully and faithfully as we could.

Think not we despair of the commonwealth, or

endeavour to shrink from opposing difficulties. No. Your cause is too good, your objects too sacred, to be relinquished. We tell you truths, because you are freemen who can bear to bear them and may profit by them; and when they reach your enemies, we fear not the consequences, because we are not ignorant of their resources or our own. Let your good sense decide upon the comparison. Let even their prejudiced understandings decide upon it, and you need not be apprehensive of the determination.

Whatever supposed advantages from plans of rapine, projects of blood, or dreams of domination, may heretofore have amused their inflamed fancies, the conduct of one monarch, the friend and protector of the rights of mankind, has turned the scale so much against them, that their visionary schemes vanish as the unwholesome vapours of night before the healthful influences of the sun.

An Alliance has been formed between his Most Christian Majesty and these States, on the basis of the most perfect equality, for the direct end of maintaining effectually their Liberty, Sovereignty and Independence, absolute and unlimited, as well in matters of government as of commerce. The conduct of our good and great Ally towards us in this instance and others, has so fully manifested his sincerity and kindness, as to excite on our part correspondent sentiments of confidence and affection.

Observing the interests of his kingdom, to which duty and inclination prompted his attention, to be connected with those of America, and the combination of both clearly to coincide with the beneficent designs of the Author of Nature, who unquestionably intended men to partake of certain rights and portions of happiness; his Majesty perceived the attainment of these views to be founded on the single proposition of a separation between America and Great-Britain.

The resentment and confusion of your enemies will point out to you the ideas you should entertain of the magnanimity and consummate wisdom of his Most Christian Majesty on this occasion.

They perceive, that selecting this grand and just idea from all those specious ones that might have confused or misled inferior judgment or virtue, and satisfied with the advantages which must result from that event alone, he has cemented the harmony between himself and these States, not only by establishing a reciprocity of benefits, but by eradicating every cause of jealousy and suspicion. They also perceive with similar emotions, that the moderation of our ally, in not desiring an acquisition of dominion on this continent, or an exclusion of other nations from a share of its commercial advantages, so useful to them, has given no alarm to those nations, but in fact has interested them in the accomplishment of his generous undertaking to dissolve the monopoly thereof by Great-Britain, which has already contributed to elevate her to her present power and haughtiness, and threatened if continued to raise both to a height insupportable to the rest of Europe.

In short, their own best informed statesmen and writers confess, that your cause is exceedingly favoured by courts and people in that quarter of the world, while that of your adversaries is equally reprobated; and from thence draw ominous and well-grounded conclusions, that the final event must prove unfortunate to the latter. Indeed, we have the BEST reason to believe that we shall soon form other Alliances, and on principles honourable and beneficial to these States.

Infatuated as your enemies have been from the beginning of this contest, do you imagine they can now flatter themselves with a hope of conquering you, unless you are false to yourselves?

When unprepared, undisciplined, and unsupported, you opposed their fleets and armies in full conjoined force, then, if at any time, was conquest to be apprehended. Yet what progress towards it have their violent and incessant efforts made? Judge from their own conduct. Having devoted you to bondage, and after vainly wasting their blood and treasure in the dishonourable enterprize, they deigned at length to offer terms of accommodation with respectful addresses to that once despised body the Congress, whose humble supplications ONLY for Peace, Liberty and Safety, they had contemptuously rejected, under pretence of its being an unconstitutional assembly. Nay more; desirous of seducing you into a deviation from the paths of rectitude, from which they had so far and so rashly wandered, they made most specious offers to tempt you into a violation of your faith given to your illustrious Ally. Their arts were as unavailing as their arms.—Foiled again, and stung with rage, embittered by envy, they had no alternative, but to renounce the inglorious and ruinous controversy, or to resume their former modes of prosecuting it. They chose the latter. Again the savages are stimulated to horrid massacres of women and children, and domestics to the murder of their masters. Again our brave and unhappy brethren are doomed to miserable deaths in jails and prison-ships. To complete the sanguinary system, all the "EXTREMITIES of War" are by authority denounced against you.

Piously endeavour to derive this consolation from their remorseless fury, that "the Father of Mercies" looks down with disapprobation on such audacious defiance of his holy laws; and be further comforted with recollecting, that the arms assumed by you in your righteous cause, have not been sullied by any unjustifiable severities.

Your enemies despairing however, as it seems, of

the success of their united forces against our main army, have divided them, as if their design was to harraiss you by predatory, desultory operations. If you are assiduous in improving opportunities, Saratoga may not be the only spot on this continent to give a new denomination to the baffled troops of a nation impiously priding herself in notions of her omnipotence.

Rouze yourselves therefore, that this campaign may finish the great work you have so nobly carried on for several years past. What nation ever engaged in such a contest under such a complication of disadvantages, so soon surmounted many of them, and in so short a period of time had so certain a prospect of a speedy and happy conclusion. We will venture to pronounce that so remarkable an instance exists not in the annals of mankind. We well remember what you said at the commencement of this war. You saw the immense difference between your circumstances and those of your enemies, and you knew the quarrel must decide on no less than your lives, liberties and estates. All these you greatly put to every hazard, resolving rather to die freemen than to live slaves; and justice will oblige the impartial world to confess you have uniformly acted on the same generous principle. Consider how much you have done, and how comparatively little remains to be done to crown you with success. Persevere; and you ensure Peace, Freedom, Safety, Glory, Sovereignty, and Felicity to Yourself, your Children, and your Childrens Children.

Encouraged by favours already received from infinite goodness, gratefully acknowledging them, earnestly imploring their continuance, constantly endeavouring to draw them down on your heads by an amendment of your lives and a conformity to the divine will, humbly confiding in the protection so often and wonderfully experienced, vigorously employ the means placed by Providence in your hands, for completing your labours.

Fill up your battalions—be prepared in every part to repel the incursions of your enemies—place your several quotas in the continental treasury—lend money for publick uses—sink the emissions of your respective states—provide effectually for expediting the conveyance of supplies for your armies and fleets, and for your allies—prevent the produce of the country from being monopolized—effectually superintend the behaviour of public officers—diligently promote piety, virtue, brotherly love, learning, frugality and moderation—and may you be approved before Almighty God worthy of those blessings we devoutly wish you to enjoy.

Done in Congress by unanimous consent, this 26th day of May, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine. JOHN JAY, President. Attest. CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

B O S T O N, May 20.

One of the last vessels from the West-Indies informs that a large number of store ships, with some ships of force, had arrived at Martinico, from Old France; this is probably the fleet mentioned to have sailed from France to the West-Indies, by the cutter not long since arrived here, and which left Brest the beginning of March. This reinforcement it is said, will give the fleet of France a superiority of strength to that of the British in those seas.

By the same channel we are informed that two ships of the line, belonging to the Squadron of Admiral Byron, were hauled up at St. Lucia, for want of men, each of them having buried 300 of their sailors.

Wednesday last a prize ship of 250 tons, laden with salt, arrived safe in port. We hear she was captured near the channel of England.

P R O V I D E N C E, May 15.

The Continental sloop Providence, Capt. Hacker, arrived in port on Tuesday last, with two prizes; one of them a brig of 12 guns, a British cruiser from New-York, which was taken after a sharp conflict of three hours; the enemy had 28 men killed and wounded, and Capt. Hacker 4 killed and 8 wounded. The other prize is a valuable ship, with 400 tierces of rice.

Thursday morning arrived here a prize sloop of about 70 tons, captured the preceding day, off Newport harbour, by the armed boats Seven Brothers, Capt. Hoxsey, General Sullivan, Capt. Oman, and Bradford, Capt. Martindale. She was bound from the island of New-Providence to New-York, and had been taken by the Monmouth privateer, of Salem, recaptured by a British tender, and again retaken by the armed boats, as above. Her cargo consists of rum, molasses, fruit, &c. A midshipman and four seamen, belonging to the Renown man of war, were made prisoners.

F I S H - K I L L, May 27.

By a person from Peck's Kill, we learn, that five of the enemy's light-horsemen had just come in there, and brought off their hories and accoutrements.

It is asserted, that the enemy at New-York are in motion, and have determined to attack some of our posts on this river. This intelligence is corroborated, by some of their vessels coming up the river a few days since, in order, as is supposed, to reconnoitre our present situation in this quarter.

B A L T I M O R E, May 25.

The force of the enemy, lately landed at Portsmouth, Virginia, amounts, at most, to two thousand men, said to be principally Hessians, and commanded by Lieutenant-General Kniphausen.

On Wednesday last a petition signed by near 600 respectable inhabitants of this and other states, on the subject of the Continental Currency, with assurances of their most strenuous concurrence in such other means in addition to taxation for establishing its credit, as Congress may recommend, was presented to that Honourable Body. At a meeting of the subscribers, his Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of this State; the Hon. John Bayard, Esq. Speaker of the Assembly; the Hon. Colonel Smith, of the Council; with four other Gentlemen, had been requested to present it; they had the honour of being admitted into Congress, and presented it in person. And we hear that every Member of that Body, who has spoken on the subject, expressed the most entire satisfaction, in the matter and manner of this application.

The last advices from South-Carolina inform that the British army had entered that State, with intent, it was supposed, to get possession of Charlestown, and that Count Polaski has had a smart skirmish, in which his horse was killed under him with fourteen balls, the Count himself not hurt, and that several officers in his corps were killed; but as General Moultrie was in their front, and General Lincoln in their rear, both with a considerable army, it was very probable there would be another Burgoyne. The inhabitants of Charlestown are in high spirits, have plenty of provisions, are strongly fortified, and have a large number of seamen ashore to assist at the great guns.

Extract of a letter from Fort Pitt, dated May 14.
 "The 11th instant four Delaware Indians arrived here from Muskingham, and bring letters for Colonel Broadhead; they say that Henry Hamilton, Lieut. Gov. of Detroit, having some time ago got possession of post St. Vincent, was surprised in the garrison by a party of Col. Clark's men, and taken prisoner with all his people and stores; that the Governor and some others were certainly put to death on account of their former cruelties; that a party of warriors, twenty in number, who had been sent to Kentucky settlement, happened soon after to return, and not knowing of the fort being retaken, marched boldly within a few yards of it, expecting that their father (the Governor) was still there ready to receive them with open arms, but were more warmly received by the Virginians, who were prepared for their reception, and killed 18 the first fire; the other two made their escape with the news to Detroit. This is the third time we have received these accounts, and from different quarters."

At a numerous meeting in the State-House yard, on Tuesday afternoon, General Roberdeau in the chair, several judicious and spirited resolves were entered into for reducing the prices of goods and provisions, supporting the currency, and reforming abuses. Committees were chosen for the purposes of carrying the resolves into execution, who are to report their proceedings to the next general town meeting.

By accounts from Boston we are informed, that 15,000 blankets are arrived there for the use of the American Army.

TRENTON, JUNE 2.

The second New-Jersey regiment, commanded by Col. Israel Shreve, which has been quartered at Newark since last fall, having received orders to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning, and it being supposed that they will soon be ordered away from this station, a number of the principal inhabitants of the town gave an elegant entertainment to the officers of the regiment, and appointed Doctor William Burnet, jun. to present to the Col. the following address, in testimony of their approbation and esteem.

To Colonel ISRAEL SHREVE, commanding the second New-Jersey regiment.

DEEPLY impressed with a grateful sense of the obligation the inhabitants of this town are under unto you, Sir, and the other officers of the second New-Jersey regiment, permit me in the name, and by order of a committee appointed for that purpose, to assure you that we shall always retain the warmest sentiments of gratitude and respect for the great attention you have paid to the welfare, peace and safety of the town, during your command here.

The great regularity and good order that has been maintained among the troops, their respectful treatment of the inhabitants, and the constant harmony that has subsisted between them and the soldiery, we are sensible, has been greatly owing to the prudence, diligence and care of their officers.

As your vigilant conduct here must have gained the approbation of the Honourable Congress, and his Excellency the Commander in Chief, we doubt not, if it was consistent with the more general public good, but you would be continued longer on this station, which would give great pleasure and be no small security unto us.

Since it is otherwise, we silently submit, and are happy in this opportunity of expressing the great satisfaction we have had in your behaviour among us; and wherever divine Providence may call you, we most ardently wish you may be useful and happy, and gloriously instrumental in the salvation of your country.

By order of the Committee,
 WILLIAM BURNET, jun.

To which the Colonel was pleased to return the following ANSWER.

Gentlemen,
 The honour you have given me and my regiment,

in your polite address, affords the most heart-felt satisfaction.—The good and virtuous only have the power of doing it.

Permit me to say that your virtuous and vigilant exertions in the cause of your country, has left me little more to do than enforce your good designs.

If we leave you, we leave you with regret; and whenever it may be our happy lot to meet you again, we trust our conduct towards the good citizens of this place, will convince them how desirous we are of their respect and regard.

By desire of the officers of the 2d Jersey regiment,
 ISRAEL SHREVE, Col.

After dinner 13 patriotic toasts were drank, and the day was spent with agreeable festivity and mutual satisfaction and joy.

At a Joint-Meeting of the Council and Assembly, on Tuesday the 25th ult. WILLIAM-CHURCHILL HOUSTON, Esquire, a Member of the General Assembly for the county of Somerset, was elected one of the Delegates to represent this State in Congress.— And on Friday last ROBERT-FRIEND PRICE, Esquire, was elected a Judge of the Court of Common-Pleas and Justice of the Peace; JOHN WILKINS, jun. Esq. a Judge of the Court of Common-Pleas; and Mr. THOMAS TABOR, a Justice of the Peace, all of and for the county of Gloucester.

On the 20th ult. the brigantine Delight, Captain James Dawson, from Tortola to New-York, mounting 12 guns, with 29 hands, came ashore in a fog on Peck's beach on Cape-May. Her cargo consisted of upwards of 80 hogheads of rum, some sugar, &c. Soon after the came ashore our militia took possession of both vessel and cargo, and sent off the crew under guard to Philadelphia.

By a letter found on board the above brig, we learn that the inhabitants of Tortola had lately suffered much by an uncommon drought, no rain having fallen there for upwards of two months.

It is reported that a number of the enemy's vessels with troops on board have gone up the North river, and that a considerable body of them have landed as high up as King's Ferry; but their intention in this movement is not yet certainly known.

We are informed that a County Meeting is to be held to-morrow, at the Court-house in Somerset, for the purpose of considering the present situation of publick affairs, and for instructing their Representatives in the Legislature, upon certain subjects of the highest importance to the welfare of the State.

By a Gentleman who came to town yesterday from Philadelphia, we learn, that a Schooner arrived there last Saturday from Providence, the Captain of which sailed from that island under pretence of going to New-York; but when he got out to sea made the best of his way to Philadelphia. During his passage he was boarded by five English privateers, who gave him several letters for persons in New-York, respecting a defeat of a large body of the English between Georgia and Charlestown, wherein they lost about 1400 men killed and taken prisoners. The Captain also declares that several Refugee families had arrived at Providence in consequence of this disaster, as well as several deserters who had been in the action, before he sailed. This affair is said to have happened on the 14th of May ult. which is later than any other account we have had from that quarter.

WHEREAS the Legislature of this State have, by a law passed the 26th of May last, raised the fees of the Prerogative Office to five times as much as they were heretofore: The Surrogates in the different counties are desired to take notice thereof, and govern themselves accordingly.

BOWES REED, Sec.

Trenton, JUNE 1, 1779.

To the ELECTORS of the county of HUNTERDON.

BEING duly authorized, I do appoint the 21st day of June next, for electing a fit and qualified person to represent said county, in the room and place of John Hart, Esq. deceased. Election to be held at Henry Merfson's in Amwell, Ringoe's old tavern.

Town Clerks to make returns of Commissioners of Appeal.
 JOSEPH INSLEE, Sheriff.
 May 27th, 1779.

Fire! Fire! Fire!

Five Hundred Dollars Reward.

A Stack of oats on the plantation of Samuel Smith, in Kingwood, in the State of New-Jersey, purchased for the use of the Continental Army, was lately set on fire in the night time, by some wicked person and enemy to the liberties of this country.

I do therefore offer and promise to pay the above reward to any person or persons who will discover the perpetrator or perpetrators, so that they may be convicted thereof.
 MOORE FURMAN, D. Q. M. G.
 Pitts-Town, 18th May, 1779. 3w New-Jersey.

TO BE SOLD by the subscriber at RHODE-HALL, near Cranbury,

A VERY good eight day clock. Also a good silver watch. DAVID WILLIAMSON. 1w†

STRAYED or stolen from Camp at Middle-Brook, a sorrel horse, about fourteen hands and a half high, hanging mane and switch tail, branded on the near buttock I. B. I will give Thirty Dollars to any person that will deliver the said horse to me, or give such information that I may get him again.

WM. CAMPBELL, Capt. 1st V. S. R.
 General Muhlenberg's Brigade.

Burlington } PUBLICK Notice is hereby given to
 county, N. J. } all persons having any just demands
 by bond, note mortgage, or book debt, against the
 following fugitives and offenders, against whom in-
 quisitions have been found, and final judgment en-
 tered in favour of the state, viz. Daniel Cox, Joseph
 Taylor, John Carty, George Plato, Robert Cooke,
 John Leonard, Thomas Hunlock, Jonathan Odell,
 Joseph Hewlings, and George, alias John Golden,
 to exhibit their accounts, &c. to the judges of the
 court of common pleas for the county of Burlington
 at the House of Okey Hoagland, in Bordentown.—
 The judges will attend at the above place on every
 Monday in June, in order to have them settled. No-
 tice is also hereby given to persons having any goods
 of any kind whatsoever, or stand indebted to any of
 the above fugitives, and shall neglect to make disco-
 very to one of the subscribers within one month from
 the date hereof, may expect to be dealt with as the
 law in that case directs. Likewise all persons who
 stand indebted for goods or lands bought at any of
 the above fugitives vendues, are desired to make
 speedy payment, that the accounts may be settled.

May 29, 1779. JOHN BUTLER, } Commis-
 2w† JOSEPH BORDEN, jun. } sioners.

Amwell, Hunterdon county, May 25, 1779.

WANTED,

AN ENGLISH SCHOOL-MASTER. A single man sufficiently qualified and of a moral character, will find employment in a very agreeable neighbourhood, and a generous sum will be given for his labours, by applying to the Rev. Mr. John Warford, of the said township of Amwell. 3w*

THE creditors of John Bainbridge, late of New-Jersey, deceased, are desired to call upon the subscriber, in Market-Street, near Second-Street, Philadelphia, in one month from the date hereof, for a dividend of the monies now in my hands. Those who do not apply, will be excluded.

May 14, 1779. 4w* C. CLAY.

TO BE SOLD by way of public vendue, at the house of Col. Nicholas Stillwill, on Cape-May, on Monday the 7th day of June, as she now lies stranded on Peck's Beach,

THE hull of the letter of marque brig DELIGHT. And at the same time and place will be sold the cargo of said brig, consisting of eighty puncheons of good West-India rum, about one ton of gunpowder, a number of small arms, and two or three tons of cannon ball; together with the great guns, cables, anchors, sails, rigging and furniture of said brig.

By order of the Court of Admiralty,
 JOS. POTTS, Marshal.

New-Jersey, May 27, 1779. 1w†

To all whom it may concern:

New-Jersey, } NOTICE is hereby given, that a
 N. J. } Court of Admiralty will be held,
 at the house of Gilbert Barton, in Allen-Town, on
 Monday the twenty-eighth day of June next, at 10
 o'clock in the forenoon of the same day, then and
 there to try the truth of the facts alledged in the bill
 of Nicholas Stillwill and others, (who as well, &c.)
 against the brigantine or vessel, called the Delight,
 lately commanded by James Dawson, with her tackle,
 apparel, furniture and cargo: To the end and intent
 that the owner or owners of the said vessel, or any
 person or persons concerned therein, may appear and
 shew cause, if any they have, why the said vessel
 and cargo should not be condemned according to the
 prayer of the said bill. By order of the Judge,
 JOSEPH BLOOMFIELD, Register.

Salem, 28th May, 1779. 4w†

New-Jersey, Hunterdon county,
 Township of Hopewell, May 16, 1779.

Sixty Dollars Reward.

Taken from a waggon in TRENTON,

ON the sixteenth day of May,

Some time in the night,

A mare all over black,

But the near hind foot white.

A curl'd main and tail,

And a very bad eye,

About ten years old

And above 14 hands high

She being shod all round,

A tender mouth I do tell,

A slow pace she can go,

But trots and canters well.

Whoever secures the thief

That to justice he may come,

And likewise the beast

That the owner may get her home:

They may call upon me,

And I will them repay

The sum above-mentioned,

And that without delay.

Or half the sum mentioned

For either of the two,

And that I do promise

I will pay unto you.

And also the charges

That's reasonable and fair,

I will pay without fail,

And that I declare.

And now, my dear countrymen,

If this prize you will gain,

I your humble servant,

Forever will remain.

JOSEPH TITUS.

SIR,

I AM at a loss what notice I can with propriety take of your address, published in this Gazette of the 12th instant.—When I read your own account of yourself, and consider you as a hero, "who has frequently risked his life, and nearly spent his all in his country's defence," (altho' such claims to consequence are very frequent at this day) I am impressed with the highest veneration for your character. But when I view you in so contracted a point of light as basely attempting to stab the reputation, and wound the feelings of an honest man, you excite no other passion in me but contempt. I should therefore pass over your performance in the silence it deserves, had you not arraigned my conduct before the public. Regard and decency to my countrymen require that I should remove those ill suspicions you have laboured so hard to impress.

It may not be amiss previously to remark a little on your evasive manner of accusing me. There is a mixture of meanness and timidity in your method of conveying censure under the form of interrogation. This sly mode of attacking, stamps on the minds of the people strong surmises of guilt, and yet gives the party accused no chance of demanding proof. It betrays a wish to slander one's character, and at the same time a fear to do it in open and explicit terms.

There is another stroke which also exposes your meanness.—When you, with an invidious sneer, tell me you have long known me, and that you are well acquainted with my character and principles, it seems from your manner of expression, that you would insinuate that my character is not fair and reputable. Where I am known, I am happy in appealing to my acquaintance for the defence of my reputation; and where I am not known, it will be a striking indication in my favour, that I meet with opposition and slander from men whose writings have so much the air of envy and ill design.

No conscious blush covers my face, nor am I less disposed to use honest boldness than when I addressed the public on the 21st ultimo. Neither am I in a disagreeable dilemma on any other account, than whether it is most proper to let your publication sink into silent disdain, or to trouble the public and myself with a reply to it. Thus far, Mr. Timoleon, you may consider the address as all your own; and I leave you awhile to ruminate on it, till I say something to the world concerning your imputations.

The strongest motives to faithfulness and integrity, are derived from the weighty functions that inforce our duties. It should be remembered, that the several Legislatures can, within their respective jurisdictions, suspend any purchaser from his office whom they suppose fraudulent or incapable of executing its requirements. We are bound, under a heavy forfeiture, to discharge our trusts with fidelity; and are not only liable to suffer for misapplication of money and stores, by a legal process, but to be convicted and punished by sentence of a Court-Martial. These forcible considerations, added to others still greater, the solemn obligations of an oath, the regard to our own reputation, the pleasure that arises from well-doing, the desire of avoiding the censure of a vigilant people, must be sufficient to check us from dishonest practices. If we are not deterred from the commission of evil by such guards and principles, it is my wish that we may be dismissed from office, and held up to view as melancholy objects of human depravity.

It has been my constant principle never to sell at an advanced price, for my private emolument, necessaries bought for the army, as that would be a practice which I consider infamous and detestable. The public officer who is guilty of it, ought to be turned out of employment with disgrace, banished from the society of virtuous men, and looked upon with as much abhorrence as a robber. Nor have I ever had occasion or inclination to speculate with the public money, for my own advantage; but on the reverse, the public have long been and now are many thousand pounds in my debt. I have in a few instances purchased such articles for sale as are often bought for the army; but it was, at a time when I was ordered by the Commissary General or his Deputy, under whom I act, to suspend my purchases of that particular article on public account. In this situation I have bought a few hogheads of rum, and some small quantities of salt, which I procured at my own risk and with my own money, and consequently supposed I had a right to dispose of it for my own benefit. I have also once appropriated to private uses a few barrels of flour in similar circumstances. Being advised by Col. Blaine, Deputy Commissary General, that it could be had at 23s. 6d. per hundred weight in the lower States, when it was eight dollars and upwards in this, it was thought proper to desist purchasing that article here. It so happened that one who purchased for me had, previous to such notice, bought a small quantity at the latter price, which I took off his hands for private purposes, and desired him to obtain a few barrels more on the same principle. This flour has been used in my own family, and dealt out to necessitous persons, who otherwise must have suffered; and even at this extravagant time I have not taken more than

six pounds per hundred, altho' carted from the farther part of Monmouth at my own expence. It cannot be denied but I had a right to provide for my own family; and if it is a crime to spare a little bread to a poor neighbour in distress, let it be said that my duty fell a sacrifice to my humanity.

Early in this contest I advanced large sums of money for public purchases, before enough could be had from the treasury, and have frequently borrowed large sums from others, that the supplies for the army need not fail. For some of which money I now pay interest, never having been able to get such sums as to clear off arrearages and continue the purchases. This interest and the depreciation of the money far exceeds all the envied commissions I shall receive. My own money is also depreciating, and I have neither time nor disposition to employ it in trade, as I would not wish to give the least occasion for jealousy to my countrymen. Had I not been engaged in the public service, but attended to my private concerns, I could with far less trouble and perplexity than I have now experienced, have gained ten times as much as the whole amount of my commissions. From this explicit account of facts, let the public determine whether I have embezzled or in any other way made a criminal application of their property.

My anxiety and exertions to obtain proper supplies for the army are well known to those with whom I have transacted business. Neither the scorching heats of summer, the cold rigors of winter, the severity of tempests, nor the darkness of the night, have repressed my endeavours to accomplish this end, and I have often been happy in giving a seasonable supply. It has been my constant aim to prevent the depreciation of the money, and I have never been so heedless of this consequence as to give forty pounds an acre for an ordinary plantation, nor attempted in a public news-paper to prove that the depreciation was twenty to one.

I averred that I could prove the reverse of what the Patriot said in a thousand instances. As this amounts only to a negative proposition, all that is necessary for me to do is to challenge those I have dealt with to convict me. I must be supposed innocent till they can prove me otherwise. I did not undertake to justify every individual who purchases for the public. Those who are honest and attentive need no vindication, and those who are not so deserve none. Others when arraigned must defend themselves.

One word more to Mr. Timoleon and I have done. If you, Sir, have a mind to divert yourself in trying to prove that they have all "indeed been barpies which have preyed upon our vitals," you may indulge your inclination, and no doubt will meet with the reward due to your extraordinary zeal and labours. You deserve my thanks for your kind offer to give me your name. I shall not trouble you with such a request, as I should be unwilling to know you. It would give me pain to reflect that there was in the list of my acquaintance one man capable of such a grovelling baseness, as to take pleasure in traducing fair and honest characters.—I submit the above to the candour and judgment of the Publick,

And am their most obedient humble servant,
Morristown, May 19, 1779. AZ. DUNHAM.

New-Jersey, AT an Inferior Court of Common Pleas held in and for said county, on the thirteenth day of April last, were returned inquisitions for joining the army of the king of Great-Britain, and other treasonable practices found against John Stites, jun. Isaac Mills, George Marshall, John Lee, jun. James Frazee, jun. Ichabod Oliver, John Stone, Robert Gault, Oliver Delancey, Thomas Bradbury Chandler, Cornelius Hetfield, jun. John Acley and Joseph Marsh, of which proclamation was made in said court, that if they, or any in their behalf, or any person who thought himself interested, should appear and traverse the same, a trial should be awarded, but no traverses were offered: Therefore notice is hereby given, that if neither they, or any in their behalf, nor any interested, shall appear at the next court to be held for said county, and traverse the same, the said inquisitions will be taken to be true, and final judgment entered thereon in favour of the State. JOHN CLAWSON, } Commis- DANIEL MARSH, } sioners.

Elizabeth-Town, May 10th, 1779. iw5

To all whom it may concern:

New-Jersey, NOTICE is hereby given, that a Court of Admiralty will be held at the house of Gilbert Barton, in Allentown, on Tuesday the fifteenth day of June next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of the same day, then and there to try the truth of the facts alledged in the bill of Oliver Gleason and Samuel Ball, (who as well, &c.) against the ship or vessel called the Mermaid, lately commanded by Captain Snowball, with her tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo: To the end and intent that the owner or owners of the said vessel, or any person or persons concerned therein, may appear and shew cause, if any they have, why the said vessel and cargo should not be condemned according to the prayer of the said bill. By order of the Judge, JOSEPH BLOOMFIELD, Register.

Salem, May 16, 1779.

State of New-Jersey, TO be sold, by way of public vendue, on Saturday the 26th day of June next, at the House of Andrew Merihon, inn-keeper, in Hopewell, a tract of wood land, containing about 300 acres, well timbered, laid out in lots of 20 acres each, situate in the township of Hopewell, joining Belmont Farm: Also a small Messuage lying contiguous thereto, containing about 16 acres, with some improvements thereon, now in the tenure of Michael Moore: Also one other lot lying near to the said Andrew Merihon's, containing about 11 acres, with some improvements, in the tenure of William Price: Likewise about 30 acres of exceeding good wood land, lying near to Trenton on the Scotch road: Also at the same time and place will be sold a lot of good wood land, situate in the upper part of Hopewell, joining land of Benjamin Parke and others, containing upwards of 20 acres; all late the property of Daniel Coxe. And on Monday the 23th of June, will be sold at Flemington, a lot of land containing about 32 acres, lying contiguous to the said town, with some improvements thereon, late the property of Joseph Smith. And on Tuesday the 29th of June, will be sold at the house of Colonel Abraham Bonnell, in Bethlehem, a plantation situate in the said township, on Musconetung mountain, containing about 230 acres, with a log tenement thereon, a small piece of meadow and an excellent orchard: Also two plantations lying near Squires point, in the township of Lebanon, with some improvements thereon. And on Saturday the 3d of July, will be sold on the premises, a small meadow lot in the township of Hopewell, near to John Snook's mill; late the property of Daniel Coxe. Vendues to begin on the respective days at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

Attendance will be given and conditions of sale made known by JARED SEXTON, } Commis- NATHANIEL HUNT, } sioners. May 24, 1779. PETER BRUNNER, } 3w5

State of New-Jersey, WHEREAS Inquisition have been found against John-Tabor Kemp, Grace his wife, and Charles M'Evans, of the city of New-York, and returned to the last Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the said county:—Notice is hereby given, that if they or some person or persons in their behalf, does not appear at the next Court of Common Pleas to be held at Trenton, in and for the said county of Hunterdon, and put in a plea to traverse the said inquisitions, final judgment will be entered thereon in favour of the State.

May 24, 1779. JARED SEXTON, } Commis- NATHANIEL HUNT, } sioners. 2w5 PETER BRUNNER, }

Monmouth, WHEREAS inquisitions have been found and final judgment entered thereon in favour of the State of New-Jersey, against the persons herein mentioned.—Notice is hereby given, that the real and personal estates belonging to Robert James, the plantation and rock, farming utensils and household goods, and all the estate of John Williams, son of John, to be sold on the premises of the said James, on Monday the 7th day of June, beginning at ten o'clock.

Joseph Leonard, Thomas Stike Willet, Chrionce Vanmater, Hair Retter, Samuel Stevenfon, William Stevenson, John Smith, George Rapalja, all their real and personal estates will be sold at the house of Cornelius Swort, in Middletown. Mares and colts belonging to Israel Bidel, of Staten-Island, and Broughton Reynolds of Elizabeth-Town. The vendue to begin on Tuesday the 8th day of June, at ten o'clock.

Anthony Dennis, William Wardel, Silas Cook, jun. James King, Elias Leppencut, Joseph Price, son of William, all their real and personal estates will be sold at Shrewsbury town on Thursday the 10th day of June, to begin at ten o'clock. And on Monday the 14th day of June on the premises, all the estate of Anthony Woodward, jun. two good plantations, besides out lands, with all the stock, farming utensils, and household goods, &c. And on the 15th day all the estate of William Perine will be sold on the premises in Upper Freshold. The sales will begin at ten o'clock each day. Deeds made to the purchasers agreeable to act of Assembly, by

SAMUEL FORMAN, JOS. LAWRENCE, KENNETH HANKINSON, JACOB WIKOFF, Commissioners.

N.B. The two emissions called in will not be taken in payment after the 20th of May.

May 3, 1779. 4w

New-Jersey, AT an Inferior Court of Common-Middlesex Co. Pleas held for the said county the 6th of April last, were returned inquisitions for joining the army of the King of Great-Britain, and other treasonable practices found against Miles Sherbrooke, John Demun, Thomas Rufel and Peter Lemmon, of which proclamation was made in open court, that if they or any on their behalf, or any person interested, would appear and traverse, a trial should be awarded, but no traverses were offered; therefore notice is hereby given that if neither they nor any on their behalf, nor any one interested shall appear and traverse at the next court to be held for the said county, the inquisitions will be taken to be true, and final judgment entered thereon in favour of the State. JOHN LLOYD, } Comrs. Princeton, May 5, WM. SCUDDER, } 1779. 3w