

NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1779.

A Circular Letter from the Congress of the United States of America to their Constituents.

[Concluded from our last.]

THIS point being established, the next question is whether the natural wealth, value and resources of the country will be equal to the payment of the debt.

Let us suppose for the sake of argument, that at the conclusion, the emissions should amount to 200,000,000, that exclusive of supplies from taxes, which will not be inconsiderable, the loans should amount to 100,000,000, then the whole national debt of the United States would be 300,000,000. There are at present 3,000,000 of inhabitants in the thirteen states: three hundred million of dollars divided among three million of people would give to each person one hundred dollars: and is there an individual in America unable in the course of eighteen or twenty years to pay it again? Suppose the whole debt assessed, as it ought to be, on the inhabitants in proportion to their respective estates, what would then be the share of the poorer people? Perhaps not ten dollars. Besides, as this debt will not be payable immediately, but probably twenty years allotted for it, the number of inhabitants by that time in America will be far more than double their present amount. It is well known that the inhabitants of this country increased almost in the ratio of compound interest. By natural population they doubled every twenty years, and how great may be the host of emigrants from other countries cannot be ascertained. We have the highest reason to believe the number will be immense. Suppose that only ten thousand should arrive the first year after the war, what will those ten thousand with their families count in twenty years time?—probably double the number. This observation applies with proportionable force to the emigrants of every successive year. Thus you see great part of your debt will be payable not merely by the present number of inhabitants, but by that number swelled and increased by the natural population of the present inhabitants, by multitudes of emigrants daily arriving from other countries, and by the natural population of those successive emigrants, so that every person's share of the debt will be constantly diminishing by others coming in to pay a proportion of it.

These are advantages which none but young countries enjoy. The number of inhabitants in every country in Europe remains nearly the same from one century to another. No country will produce more people than it can subsist, and every country, if free and cultivated, will produce as many as it can maintain. Hence we may form some idea of the future population of these states. Extensive wildernesses, now scarcely known or explored, remain yet to be cultivated, and vast lakes and rivers, whose waters have for ages rolled in silence and obscurity to the ocean, are yet to hear the din of industry, become subservient to commerce, and boast delightful villas, gilded spires, and spacious cities rising on their banks.

Thus much for the number of persons to pay the debt. The next point is their *ability*. They who enquire how many millions of acres are contained only in the settled parts of North-America, and how much each acre is worth, will acquire very enlarged and yet very inadequate ideas of the value of this country. But those who will carry their enquiries further, and learn that we heretofore paid an annual tax to Britain of three millions sterling in the way of trade, and still grew rich; that our commerce was then confined to her; that we were obliged to carry our commodities to her market, and consequently to sell them at her price; that we were compelled to purchase foreign commodities at her stores, and on her terms, and were forbid to establish any manufactories incompatible with her views of gain; that in future the whole world will be open to us, and we shall be at liberty to purchase from those who will sell on the best terms, and to sell to those who will give the best prices; that as the country increases in number of inhabitants and cultivation, the productions of the earth will be proportionably increased, and the riches of the whole proportionably greater: Whoever examines the force of these and similar observations, must smile at the ignorance of those who doubt the ability of the United States to redeem their bills.

Let it also be remembered that paper money is the only kind of money which cannot "make unto itself wings and fly away." It remains with us, it will not forsake us, it is always ready and at hand for the purpose of commerce or taxes, and every industrious man can find it. On the contrary, should Britain like Ninevah (and for the same reason) yet find mercy, and escape the storm ready to burst upon her, she will find her national debt in a very different situation.

Her territory diminished, her people wasted, her commerce ruined, her monopolies gone, she must provide for the discharge of her immense debt by taxes to be paid in specie, in gold or silver, perhaps now buried in the mines of Mexico or Peru, or still concealed in the brooks and rivulets of Africa or Indostan.

Having shewn that there is no reason to doubt the ability of the United States to pay their debt, let us next enquire whether as much can be said for their inclination.

Under this head three things are to be attended to: 1st. Whether and in what manner the faith of the United States has been pledged for the redemption of their bills.

2d. Whether they have put themselves in a political capacity to redeem them,—and

3d. Whether, admitting the two former propositions, there is any reason to apprehend a wanton violation of the public faith.

1st. It must be evident to every man who reads the journals of Congress or looks at the face of one of their bills, that Congress have pledged the faith of their constituents for the redemption of them. And it must be equally evident, not only that they had authority to do so, but that their constituents have actually ratified their acts, by receiving their bills, passing laws establishing their currency, and punishing those who counterfeited them. So that it may with truth be said that the people have pledged their faith for the redemption of them not only collectively by their representatives, but individually.

2d. Whether the United States have put themselves in a political capacity to redeem their bills, is a question which calls for more full discussion.

Our enemies, as well foreign as domestic, have laboured to raise doubts on this head. They argue that the confederation of the states remains yet to be perfected; that the union may be dissolved; Congress be abolished, and each state resuming its delegated powers proceed in future to hold and exercise all the rights of sovereignty appertaining to an independent state. This position being assumed, they next proceed to assert this event to be probable, and in proof of it urge our divisions, our parties, our separate interests, distinct manners, former prejudices, and many other arguments equally plausible and equally fallacious. Examine this matter.

For every purpose essential to the defence of these states in the progress of the present war, and necessary to the attainment of the objects of it, these states now are as fully, legally and absolutely confederated, as it is possible for them to be. Read the credentials of the different delegates who composed the Congress in 1774, 1775, and part of 1776. You will find that they establish an union for the express purpose of opposing the oppressions of Britain and obtaining redress of grievances. On the 4th of July, 1776, your representatives in Congress, perceiving that nothing less than unconditional submission would satisfy our enemies, did in the name of the people of the Thirteen United Colonies declare them to be Free and Independent States, and "for the SUPPORT of that declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, did mutually pledge to each other their LIVES, their FORTUNES and their SACRED HONOUR." Was ever confederation more formal, more solemn or explicit? It has been expressly assented to and ratified by every state in the union.—Accordingly, for the direct SUPPORT of this declaration, that is for the support of the independence of these states, armies have been raised, and bills of credit emitted and loans made to pay and supply them. The redemption therefore of these bills, the payment of these debts, and the settlement of the accounts of the several states for expenditures or services for the common benefit and in this common cause, are among the objects of this confederation; and consequently while all or any of its objects remain unattained, it cannot, so far as it may respect such objects, be dissolved, consistent with the laws of God or man.

But we are persuaded, and our enemies will find, that our union is not to end here. They are mistaken when they suppose us kept together only by a sense of present danger. It is a fact which they only will dispute, that the people of these states were never so cordially united as at this day. By having been obliged to mix with each other, former prejudices have worn off, and their several manners become blended. A sense of common permanent interest, mutual affection (having been brethren in affliction,) the ties of consanguinity daily extending, constant reciprocity of good offices, similarity in language, in governments, and therefore in manners, the importance, weight and splendor of the union, all conspire in forming a strong chain of connection, which must forever bind us together.

The United Provinces of the Netherlands and the United Cantons of Switzerland became free and independent under circumstances very like ours: their independence has been long established, and yet their confederacies continue in full vigor. What reason can be assigned why our union should be less lasting? or why should the people of these states be supposed less wise than the inhabitants of those? You are not uninformed that a plan for a perpetual confederation has been prepared, and that twelve of the thirteen states have already acceded to it. But enough has been said to shew that for every purpose of the present war, and all things incident to it, there does at present exist a perfect solemn confederation, and therefore that the states now are and always will be in political capacity to redeem their bills, pay their debts, and settle their accounts.

3d. Whether, admitting the ability and political capacity of the United States to redeem their bills, there is any reason to apprehend a wanton violation of the public faith?

It is with great regret and reluctance that we can prevail upon ourselves to take the least notice of a question which involves in it a doubt so injurious to the honour and dignity of America.

The enemy, aware that the strength of America lay in the union of her citizens, and the wisdom and integrity of those to whom they committed the direction of their affairs, have taken unwearied pains to dissuade and alarm the people, to depreciate the abilities and virtue of their rulers, and to impair the confidence reposed in them by their constituents. To this end repeated attempts have been made to draw an absurd and fanciful line of distinction between the Congress and the People, and to create an opinion and a belief that their interests and views were different and opposed. Hence the ridiculous tales, the invidious insinuations, and the whimsical suspicions that have been forged and propagated by disguised emissaries and traitors in the garb of patriots. Hence has proceeded the notable discovery that as the Congress made the money they also can destroy it; and that it will exist no longer than they find it convenient to permit it. It is not surprising that in a free country, where the tongues and pens of such people are and must be licensed, such political heresies should be inculcated and diffused, but it is really astonishing that the mind of a single virtuous citizen in America should be influenced by them. It certainly cannot be necessary to remind you that your representatives here are chosen from among yourselves; that you are or ought to be acquainted with their several characters; that they are sent here to speak your sentiments, and that it is constantly in your power to remove such as do not. You surely are convinced that it is no more in their power to annihilate your money than your independence, and that any act of theirs for either of those purposes would be null and void.

We should pay an ill compliment to the understanding and honour of every true American, were we to adduce many arguments to shew the baseness or bad policy of violating our national faith, or omitting to pursue the measures necessary to preserve it. A bankrupt faithless republic would be a novelty in the political world, and appear among reputable nations, like a common prostitute among chaste and respectable matrons. The pride of America revolts from the idea; her citizens know for what purpose these emissions were made, and have repeatedly pledged their faith for the redemption of them; they are to be found in every man's possession, and every man is interested in their being redeemed; they must therefore entertain a high opinion of American credulity, who suppose the people capable of believing, on due reflection, that all America will, against the faith, the honour and the interest of all America, be ever prevailed upon to countenance, support or permit so ruinous, so disgraceful a measure. We are convinced that the efforts and arts of our enemies will not be wanting to draw us into this humiliating and contemptible situation. Impelled by malice, and the suggestions of chagrin and disappointment, at not being able to bend our necks to their yoke, they will endeavour to force or seduce us to commit this unpardonable sin, in order to subject us to the punishment due to it, and that we may thenceforth be a reproach and a by-word among the nations. Apprized of these consequences, knowing the value of national character, and impressed with a due sense of the immutable laws of justice and honour, it is impossible that America should think without horror of such an execrable deed.

If then neither our ability or inclination to discharge the public debt, are justly questionable, let our conduct correspond with this confidence, and let us rescue our credit from its present imputations. Had the attention of America to this object been unremitting,

(For the remainder see the fourth page.)

Mr. COLLINS,
The following little piece made its appearance some time ago in the Pennsylvania Packet, and as it seems to have been calculated to ridicule the truly ridiculous practice of Fox hunting, now so prevalent in this state, your giving it a place in your paper will oblige one of your readers.

THE DEATH OF THE FOX.

THE Fox from covert unsecure,
Is rous'd and frighted by the roar
Of Hounds: a wretched ghastly gang
That flame their masters to a man.
O'er many a hill he takes his way;
Through many a thicket seems to stray:
With horrid speed the gang pursue;
With horrid yells delight the crew,
That rambling, roaring, ranting, tearing,
Kicking, spurring, cursing, swearing,
Pursue the chace with awkward speed,
To see! to see a Reynard bleed!
The victim trembling o'er the plain,
By turns across the farmer's grain,
Extends his course, with grief oppress'd,
In hopes to find some place of rest;
But all in vain; the gang draw near,
And with their yells increase his fear;
Grim horror darts from ev'ry eye,
And threatens sad destruction nigh:
He falters, and the Dogs press on;
They seize him, and the job is done:
A Fox is kill'd by twenty Men;
That Fox perhaps had kill'd a Hen.
A gallant act no doubt is here,
All wicked Foxes ought to fear,
When twenty Dogs, and twenty Men,
Can kill a Fox that kill'd a Hen.

To the Legislatures of the United States in general, and that of New-Jersey in particular.

YOU, gentlemen, are chosen from among the people at large, as being possessed of more knowledge in the affairs of government, agriculture and trade, than any others among us; you are looked upon as our fathers and guardians, and no doubt are fully acquainted with the impending ruin hanging over us, through the depreciation of our continental money. The body politic, in many cases, wants the aid of good laws, as does the corporeal body, when labouring under some malignant disorder, want the aid and assistance of the skilful physician; and I am well assured, that the most skilful physician might as well say, that nature will cure the patient, and restore him to health without any assistance whatsoever, as that trade, amidst the convulsions of the present day, will regulate itself. Experience teaches us it will not; else why the many conventions and committees that are now, without law, drawing the line of limitation in the several states.

It is your duty, and you ought, without delay, to take this matter into your most serious consideration, and by a law draw the line of limitation of all internal produce, manufacture and labour, fixing a generous line of limitation for all imported articles, or in lieu thereof, limit all importation to pass only thro' three hands, to wit, the importer, the retailer, and the consumer. This will effectually put an end to the engrosser, monopolizer, forestaller, and those locusts, those pests of society; in short, they are bad men, and I cannot give them a worse name, nor sum up their characters in more forceable words than those lines of the old poet:

*They only seem to hate, and seem to love,
Interest is still the point on which they move.*

A law for the purposes aforesaid having become absolutely necessary, I shall not presume to dictate to my superiors, but must beg leave just to mention, that it should be so framed as to be most likely to be carried into execution: I would therefore suppose, that by law, each town in every state should be authorized to choose a committee not less than fifteen, nor more than one hundred, whose business it should be, by applying to a magistrate, to carry the said law into effect, in punishing every transgressor of the same. This or something similar, I am fully convinced, is the only remedy for the extortion of the present day.

To the Committee of Philadelphia in particular, and to all other Committees, whose proceedings have been published, in general.

GENTLEMEN,

Although I must acknowledge you have stepped forth in a most important hour, in favour of the glorious cause of liberty, and in some degree, have put a stop to extortion and the further depreciation of our continental money, yet let me entreat you not to be offended with me, who am but a common farmer, for giving you my sentiments on your regulations. You have fixed almost every thing at most extravagant prices, which are to be lowered monthly, as they heretofore had risen. Will not this have a tendency to stagnate all trade? What man will purchase this month any quantity of goods for sale, when he knows if he does not sell in the month, it is to be so much lower the next? Besides your resolutions (although made from the purest principles) have not the same weight with the people at large, as perhaps the same regulations would have, were they sanctified by a law: Therefore, let us all unite, and petition our several Legislatures for a general regulation throughout the United States, by law, for that most valuable purpose.

To the People at large throughout the United States in general, and those of New-Jersey in particular.

Friends and Brother Farmers,

I shall conclude this paper in addressing you on the most interesting political subject that ever was agitated among us. Here let me call up your most serious attention for a few moments. You are all by this time well acquainted with the depreciation of our continental money, and the unparalleled extortion that prevails among us; you know we are in a war; that this war must be supported by taxes finally on us. Is it consistent with common sense or common prudence to support this war at upwards of twenty times as much as it would have cost, had the prices of our produce and manufactures remained at what they were in the year 1773 or 1774? Remember we are contracting a debt that will be to be paid, when we have a peace, (as we cannot raise more by our annual taxes than will suffice for the current year:) Therefore the debt already contracted, must remain to be paid in a peaceable day, which God grant may be soon. Let us therefore most heartily join in petitions to our Legislature, that they immediately enact a law limiting the prices of all internal produce, manufacture and labour, drawing a line for all imported articles as shall, taking in all risks and expences, leave a generous profit for the importer.— This, I apprehend, will have a better effect than that of committees. I expect it will be said, trade will regulate itself. I answer, the experience of the present times must fully convince us, it will not; a remedy must be applied, and although I venerate the intentions of the several committees that have been published, yet I am fully convinced, that any thing short of a penal law to take place throughout the United States, as near the same time as possible, will effect the cure of the political disorder, under which we at present are labouring; on which our enemy's most sanguine hopes rest, for bringing about our ruin. Let us then nobly resolve (for it is our truest interest) to sacrifice a little property for securing our dearest liberty. I could say a great deal about the cruelty of our enemies, should they prevail; but you have already heard so much of this, 'tis needless, their prospects at present being so trifling: Relying therefore on your virtue and patriotism, I conclude, wishing you all manner of prosperity.

Sept. 10, 1779.

A JERSEY FARMER.

LONDON, June 19.

IMMEDIATELY on the receipt of the Spanish rescript, a courier was sent off express for Peterburgh; in consequence of which, a large Russian squadron is expected to join the British fleet in the bay.

The declaration of Spain is an event that has been long and universally looked for; and it is rather improbable that a Spanish war should now, for the first time, become an unpopular measure.

Orders have been sent over to Hanover, to raise 10,000 additional troops in the Electorate, with all possible expedition.

Letters of marque are preparing to be issued against the Spaniards, in the same manner as was done against the French; but no declaration of war will take place.

June 22. A nobleman of the first distinction is preparing to leave this kingdom, he being charged with an important commission, to the Emperor of Morocco. Presents to the amount of 100,000l. are now preparing to be sent to the above monarch, it being determined on, at all events, by government, to enter into a treaty with the Emperor, and to prevail on him to wage war with the Spaniards; a circumstance, which, if it should take place, will cut out sufficient work for the Dons, particularly in the Mediterranean. Ceuta and Oran will soon fall a prey to the savage ferocity of the Moors.

A private letter from Hague says, a rupture between Spain and Portugal seems no longer a doubt; the Portuguese Minister at Paris, it is added, has asked for his passport, in order to quit that country.

Letters from Lisbon assert, that the King of Portugal had caused it to be notified in express terms to the French and Spanish Ministers, that it is not his intention, to adopt any measures which may oblige him to break through his treaties with Great-Britain.

CHARLES-TOWN, (S. Carolina) Sept. 4.

Late last night the lieut. of marines of the armed brig Bellona, came up to town with intelligence of his Excellency Count D'Estaing's fleet, consisting of 25 sail of the line, 20 frigates and three courvettes or sloops, being at anchor on Thursday noon, in 14 fathom water, off Tybee; on board the fleet are 5000 land forces. A frigate had been dispatched with an express to this town; it is imagined the high wind we had on Thursday night has occasioned her standing off; but as the weather is now favourable, she is hourly looked for. Pilots are now going to the Count. This great and unexpected aid cannot fail giving the highest satisfaction to every real friend of America, and affords the happy prospect of soon seeing the virtuous few of our sister state of Georgia, reinstated in their possessions, and a speedy stop being put to the ravages of our haughty invaders.

BOSTON, September 11.

Monday last signals were made from the castle to apprise the town that a number of ships were off approaching our harbour; they were soon found to

be the Deane frigate, commanded by Capt. Nicholson, and the Boston by Capt. Tucker, with two prizes, one the packet bound from New-York to England, the other a new copper bottom sloop of war, from England to New-York with dispatches from the British government to their officers in that place, upon the rupture with Spain. The Deane and Boston cruized some time in company with another frigate, of the United States, the Confederacy. They have taken a large number of prizes, 8 of which are safe arrived; some have been retaken, among which is a vessel from Scotland, richly laden with dry goods. The Boston has been concerned in the capture of 13 prizes this cruise. In the sloop of war a printer was taken, with plates, paper and izing glass, for counterfeiting the last emission of continental bills; he and his accomplices, some of whom it may be concluded are of high rank, hoped no doubt to obtain no small advantage by this intended forgery. The Britons have spared no species of meanness and villainy, any more than of cruelty in the prosecution of the American war; but the firmness and perseverance of the United States, rises superior to all.

In the above packet were taken Lieut. Col. Duncan M'Pherson and Capt. Rofs, of the 73d British regiment; Major Gardner of the 16th, his Lady and family, and three Navy Captains.—The above-mentioned Gardner we are informed, commanded the light corps of Col. Campbell's army in Georgia, and is well known there by the name of the *short regiment*, humane Commandant. These officers were bound from York to London, when taken.

Last Wednesday the Great and General Court or Assembly convened at the State-House in this town, according to adjournment.

Sept. 16. A letter from a military officer of character at New-London, advises, that by a flag from New-York, information was brought, that about 3000 troops, chiefly Hessians, in 36 transports, under convoy of a 74 gun ship, and the Renown, of 50 guns, sailed from New-York last Friday, their destination uncertain; but it was given out to be for Quebec. The letter adds, that other advices from the same place assert the embarkation made, or making, to consist of 7 or 8000 men, and that part, if not the whole, were said by some in New-York to be destined to the southward, and by others to Boston. We find by the same letter, they had no apprehension at New-York last Friday of the Count d'Estaing's approach to these coasts; and that the last advice of him was, that he was going with his fleet through the passage of Porto-Rico.

We have advice from Martha's-Vineyard, that the tory fleet, consisting of a ship, the Oliver Cromwell, a brig, a schooner, and five other small armed vessels, with their noted and puissant leaders, Hatch, Winslow and Leonard, had arrived at that place. All their vessels appeared to be ill manned, and a single frigate might easily capture them all. They appeared to come for provisions of various kinds, but chiefly wood, which they said they intended to pay for.— They insisted upon the inhabitants immediately exerting themselves to cut and prepare it for embarkation, declaring that if they did not begin on a certain day, which was Monday last, they would give up the place to the plunder of the clan.

Extract of a letter from New-London, dated Sept. 12.

“Three prizes arrived here yesterday, one of them a large brig from Cork, out 13 weeks, her cargo consists of about 50 casks bread, 450 barrels flour, number tierces beef, and 750 firkins butter, &c. &c.”

POUGHKEEPSIE, September 13.

On the 7th inst. two Indian runners, who were sent into the Seneca country, by the Oneida's, to discover how matters stood in that quarter, returned, and reported, that Butler and Brant, with the whole force they could collect, went out from the Conifedago castle, to oppose our army, and took an advantageous post about ten miles from that place, where our army (on the 29th ult.) had met, almost surrounded, attacked and defeated them, killed a great number and took several prisoners; that those who escaped, retreated back to their fort at Conifedago; that Butler advised them to abandon their country and retire to Niagara, which the Indians refused—alleging, that as he was the cause of their misfortunes, he must continue with them, and fight again there, or he should suffer for it.

That our people were advancing fast, had got their boats in the Cayuga Lakes, and had nearly surrounded the enemy before the runners set out to return; and that they had not the least doubt, but that before they got in, the enemy were all made prisoners.—That just before they came off, an Indian runner had arrived, who informed Butler, that an army from Fort Pitt had penetrated the country, by the Janniffee river, met and totally defeated the Indians in that quarter, and were advancing further into the country.—That the Savages were in the greatest consternation, the Squaas, old men and children, fleeing in droves for Niagara.

This, the Oneida chiefs, who forwarded the account to the commanding officer at Fort Schuyler, say, may be depended upon as truth.

NEW-YORK, September 15.

A commander of a vessel arrived last night from St. Kitts, declares, that Admiral Byron had sailed unincumbered with transports, four days before his departure from that island, in pursuit of the French fleet, under Count d'Estaing, with 21 sail of the line, three fifty gun ships, and nine frigates,

Extract of a letter from Elizabeth-Town, Sept. 15. From good authority, I am informed the enemy, at least 6000 of them, are preparing to leave New-York, supposed to be destined for the West-Indies— Three regiments have already sailed, the 44th British, and two Hessian regiments; the 44th is completed by draughts from the 26th and recruits, their destination is uncertain, but conjectured for the West-Indies: They sailed under convoy of a 64 gun ship, said to be the Ardent.—The enemy are fearful of a visit from the French fleet, and are much dejected; especially the refugees, since the publication of the Spanish manifesto; many of the latter cursing the hour they began to assist his Most gracious Majesty: And may the Lord increase their trouble!

Extract of a letter from Capt. Samuel Nicholson, of the Deane frigate, to the Marine Committee of Congress. Falmouth, September 3, 8 o'clock, 1779.

Gentlemen,

My last to you was of the 29th of July, dated from Hampton in Virginia, and on the same day I left the Capes with two Virginia State ships, their tender, and 13 sail of merchantmen. The State ships and tender quitted us soon after we left the Cape.

On the second of August we discovered two sail, and gave them chase; they endeavoured to separate our convoy, but we were fortunate enough to take them both, being privateers from New-York, one the Flying-Fish, mounting the same and 32 men; the other the former commanded by Capt. Waring, and the latter by Capt Blair, both which were sent to Philadelphia under the command of Mr. Long a pilot, and Mr. Porter of the Boston.

On the 9th instant we chased and took the ship Glencairn, from Glasgow, mounting twenty 18, 9 and 6 pounders, bound for New-York, and laden with goods, &c. She had about 30 men, and commanded by Capt. McCaul.

On the 12th, we came up with the Sandwich packet, from New-York, bound to Falmouth in England, mounting 16 guns and 60 men, commanded by Capt. Hill of the navy, who was going home with dispatches, which he threw over, and had on board Lieut. Col. M'Pherson of the 73d regiment, Major Gardner of the 16th, with his wife and child, which we let remain on board her, on account of better accommodation, Capt. Ross of the 71st regiment, Capt. James of the navy, and Mr. Robertson purser of the Swift, also Mr. Powell and Mr. Ashley, merchants, besides the officers of the ship.

The 23d, we chased and took the brigantine Venture, from Madeira, commanded by Capt. Leake, mounting 2 guns and about 15 or 20 men, and laden with about 150 pipes of wine, (Madeira,) bound for New-York; she was dispatched for Boston in care of Mr. Day, midshipman of the Boston frigate; by her we learned the declaration of Spain against England.

Capt. Tucker on the 24th was preparing to quit me, but just on the moment of parting we discovered a sail bearing down upon us, upon which we agreed to keep together till we saw who or what she was; and thereupon gave her chase, which continued till one o'clock next morning, when she struck without firing a gun. She proved to be the Thorn, a sloop of war from Portsmouth in England, pierced for 18 guns and mounting 14, was copper bottomed, and complete in every respect as a ship of war for six months, and only ten months old, had 135 men on board, and commanded by Capt. Wardlow, bound for New-York; she was going with the Spanish manifesto and other dispatches, which were destroyed.

Upon my coming into this river, I found the Sandwich packet lying here, who got in about four hours before us, having fallen in with Sir George Collier's fleet returning to New-York; but they took no notice of him, and he got clear.

On board the Glencairn a person says he had in charge a box, which was to be delivered to some person in New-York, but upon our coming up with them and the ship striking, threw it overboard; upon which we sent immediately after it, and with difficulty got it before it sunk, when upon examination we found it contain materials for counterfeiting our currency, consisting of types, paper with silk and isinglass in it, &c. We have however determined to secure the person, as we believe him to be the sole intender of the villainy: The box we have on board, and shall bring it with us to Boston.

I gave the command of the Thorn to Mr. Yeaton, my First Lieutenant; he is an excellent officer, and wish he might be appointed to the command of her.

P. S. I saw the merchantmen a hundred leagues to the eastward of Bermudas.

Published by Order of Congress, CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

In COMMITTEE, Sept. 24, 1779.

To our worthy FELLOW-CITIZENS of the City and Liberties of PHILADELPHIA.

Gentlemen,

THE duty we owe to you, not only as our constituents, but as fellow supporters of the great and glorious cause of the United States, renders it incumbent on us to lay before you the following matters.

The great uneasiness and numerous discontent which prevailed in the month of May last, respecting the depreciation of the currency, occasioned a Town-Meeting to be held in the State-House yard on the

25th of that month, at which a committee was appointed to execute certain resolves then entered into; the immediate consequence of which was, that the currency received a check so important and extensive, not only in this State but in many others, that had the opportunity been properly improved, the most happy advantages might, in our opinion, been produced and established.

On the expiration of the first Committee, a second was elected, too numerous to execute with dispatch, and too various on their ideas to concur in all the measures expected from them; at the same time, we had reason to apprehend a continual decrease of goods from the city, by private removals, without being able to detect or prevent them; an unwillingness in many of the importers to come into the plans necessary for securing supplies to the State, and a backwardness in the country to send in their produce—Reluctance in the one begat the same spirit in the other, while the great and superior cause of our country, the means of supporting our army, and providing for the exigencies of government, were unhappily forgotten in the interested views, and mistaken avarice, of individuals.

Thus situated, we found it difficult to proceed, left our endeavours to execute every resolve of the Town-Meeting should increase the avaricious disposition for removing goods, or prevent a return of cargoes into this port, and likewise be artfully given as a pretence for vindicating such ungenerous misconduct. We had, therefore, no eligible method but to endeavour to keep matters as they were, until the meeting of the Assembly, before whom we have laid the business.—Yet we appeal to the judgment even of those who have opposed us, whether the depreciation has not increased more within these few days past, than in the four preceding months.

Trade and commerce as they now stand, are put in opposition to the interest and independence of the country. The money was issued for the purpose of supporting the war and defraying the exigencies of government, but the whole of it is now so effectually swallowed up in the enormity of prices, that the intention of emitting it is nearly defeated. Yet as soon as an attempt was made to stop the depreciation, an artificial want was created to prevent the success of the measure, and a clamour raised against the Committee, to cover the misconduct of those who were opposing them.

If goods have been removed, we are not the persons who have removed them: and if those who have been guilty of such practices, should plead in excuse that they did it because they could get a few pounds more in other places, what is it but to confess they care nothing for the welfare of the community among whom they reside, or for their country's cause, and that avarice and self-interest are their only principles.

Our object was to establish the currency by easy and gradual means, and the little portion of inconveniencies that must naturally fall to every man's share in the first setting out, were trifles compared with the point to be accomplished or to be lost. And on this head we cannot help remarking, that the situation of the country, so far as it respects the currency, is not so properly distressing, as it is inconvenient and perplexing. We see ourselves allied to, and our cause favoured by the most formidable powers in Europe. Our independence established on as firm a basis as that of any other country in a state of war, and yet with all those advantages, brilliant as they are, and far exceeding our utmost expectations, we are unwisely disabling ourselves, unnecessarily multiplying our taxes, increasing our household expences, and courting poverty with money in our hands.

We have been generally informed that many of the persons who are now selling or retailing West-India produce at an exorbitant rate, purchased the same of some of the importers at a regulated price, or very little more, and though we cannot but disapprove of the impolitic conduct of many of the importers, who after selling their own goods at a regulated price, should remonstrate against and oppose the regulations; yet in order to do justice to the one, and detect and punish the other, we shall gladly give every assistance that can lead to the full discovery of a practice so replete with avarice and dishonesty, be the delinquents who they may. And tho' we are not authorized by the resolves of the Town-Meeting to establish prices higher than they formerly were, yet as it may be of use to inform the public of the rates which the importers agreed to sell at, in an address delivered by a Committee from their own body to his Excellency the President of the State, we hereby publish them, as follows:

Rum,	£. 7	10	0
Coffee,	1	2	6
Tea,	7	10	0
Salt,	15	0	0

if proper to be regulated at all.

Having thus concisely stated the situation of business, with some occasional remarks thereon, we shall suspend further proceedings, except in very particular cases, until the determination of the Assembly be made known, and sincerely wishing that a universal disposition may prevail for the restoration of public credit, we shall, at all times, hold ourselves in readiness, during the time for which we were elected, (which is to the last day of the present year) to meet and execute any measures consistent with the public good and the duty committed to us.

Signed, by a unanimous vote of the Committee, JAMES HUTCHINSON, Chairman.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman in Philadelphia, dated September 26, 1779.

This afternoon the Hessians taken by captain Taylor, in the sloop Mars, were landed here. Six officers and 156 privates. The highest officer a Major. Count D'Estaing arrived in Savannah river on the eighth of this month, with a considerable fleet, and a body of land forces. General Lincoln is moving towards the enemy from above—They must fight or retire from the State; they may perhaps choose the latter if they can get off conveniently. We have no account yet of any operations. Yesterday evening the Hunter sloop of war, carrying 14 guns and 75 men, prize to the Pickering privateer of Salem, arrived here; she never fired a gun, though the privateer mounted but 16 guns and had but 65 men."

Extract of a letter from a Member of Congress, dated at Philadelphia, September 27, 1779.

Yesterday brought official information that Count d'Estaing with a considerable fleet arrived the 7th instant in Savannah river, with a view of making a stroke on the British power in Georgia. Gen. Lincoln, with the troops under his command, are drawing down from the interior country, and the combined operations will, I hope, produce something in our favour, by obliging the enemy to risk an action, or evacuate Georgia and South-Carolina. In the former case the land forces on board the Count's fleet, being conjoined with Gen. Lincoln's, will make a respectable effort; in the latter, the enemy will find it a matter of great risk and difficulty to make a retreat to St. Augustine or Pensacola, or indeed into any part of the Floridas. The dispatches came away immediately on the arrival of the Count, so that there is no intelligence of any operations as yet. It is hoped the exertions of the Count, that the enemy will be dispossessed in that quarter."

Extract of a letter from an officer in the western army, commanded by Major-General Sullivan, dated Konadagea, September 9, 1779.

Since the action of the 29th of last month, the Indians have fled at the approach of our army, and left their settlements to our mercy,—New-Town, Konowarohala, French Katherines, Candai, Skayes, Gaghfeonghwa, and Konadagea, are great heaps of ruin; besides these we have burnt a number of scattering houses; and destroyed a large country of corn pumpkins, cymbines, cucumbers, water-melons, peaches and apples.

This day we shall set out for Genessee, and lay that country in ashes. The enemy having retired to Niagara we expect no opposition as we advance, but expect an attack as we return."

On Thursday last a Mr. Van Mater was knocked off his horse on the road near Longstreet's mill, in Monmouth county, by Lewis Fenton and one Debow, by whom he was stabbed in the arm and otherwise much abused, beside being robbed of his saddle. In the mean-time another person coming up, which drew the attention of the robbers, gave Van Mater an opportunity to make his escape. He went directly and informed a serjeant's guard of Major Lee's light dragoons who were in the neighbourhood of what had happened. The serjeant immediately impressed a waggon and horses, and ordered three of his men to secrete themselves in it under some hay. Having changed his clothes and procured a guide, he made haste thus equipped to the place where Fenton lay. On the approach of the waggon Fenton (his companion being gone) rushed out to plunder it. Upon demanding what they had in it, he was answered, a little wine and spirit. These articles he said he wanted; and while advancing toward the waggon to take possession of them, one of the soldiers, being previously informed who he was, shot him through the head, which killed him instantly on the spot. Thus did this villain end his days—which it is hoped will at least be a warning to others, if not induce them to throw themselves on the mercy of their injured country.

STATE of NEW-JERSEY,

Gloucester County, Sept. 7, 1779.

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons having any demands against Harrison Wells, George Avis, William Wells, William Bocoock, Daniel Cozens, Jonathan Chew, James Hanify, Joseph Long, Jacob Hewitt, John Robeson, Peter Johnson, Isaac Justice, John Hatton, James Duffield, John Gruff, John Hinchman, William Foriman, Alexander Bartram, John Cox, John Rodrow, Gabriel D'Veber, William Pinyard, John O'Briant, George Swanton, Josiah Biddle, Robert Whitaker, Jeremiah Proffer, John Carter, jun. or David Suram, whose estates are forfeited, and have been sold by the Commissioners of said county; that they exhibit their accounts before the Judges of the court of common pleas, within the time limited by law, in order that they may be adjusted and paid.

JOHN SPARKS, } Commis-
SAMUEL KAIGHN, } sioners.

had taxes been seasonably imposed and collected, had proper loans been made, had laws been passed and executed for punishing those who maliciously endeavoured to injure the publick credit; had these and many other things equally necessary been done, and had our currency, notwithstanding all these efforts, declined to its present degree of depreciation, our case would indeed have been deplorable. But as these exertions have not been made, we may yet experience the good effects which naturally result from them. Our former negligencies therefore should now animate us with hope, and teach us not to despair of removing by vigilance and application the evils which supineness and inattention have produced.

It has been already observed that in order to prevent the further natural depreciation of our bills we have resolved to stop the press, and to call upon you for supplies by loans and taxes. You are in capacity to afford them, and are bound by the strongest ties to do it. Leave us not therefore without supplies, nor let in that flood of evils which would follow from such a neglect. It would be an event most grateful to our enemies, and depend upon it they will redouble their artifices and industry to compass it. Be therefore upon your guard, and examine well the policy of every measure and the evidence of every report that may be proposed or mentioned to you before you adopt the one or believe the other. Recollect that it is the price of the liberty, the peace and the safety of yourselves and posterity, that now is required;—that peace, liberty and safety, for the attainment and security of which you have so often and so solemnly declared your readiness to sacrifice your lives and fortunes. The war, though drawing fast to a successful issue, still rages. Disdain to leave the whole business of your defence to your ally. Be mindful that the brightest prospects may be clouded, and that prudence bids us be prepared for every event. Provide therefore for continuing your armies in the field till victory and peace shall lead them home, and avoid the reproach of permitting the currency to depreciate in your hands, when by yielding a part to taxes and loans, the whole might have been appreciated and preserved. Humanity as well as justice makes this demand upon you, the complaints of ruined widows, and the cries of fatherless children, whose whole support has been placed in your hands and melted away, have doubtless reached you—take care that they ascend no higher. Rouse therefore; strive who shall do most for his country; rekindle that flame of patriotism which at the mention of disgrace and slavery blazed throughout America, and animated all her citizens. Determine to finish the contest as you began it, honestly and gloriously.—Let it never be said that America had no sooner become independent than she became insolvent, or that her infant glories and growing fame were obscured and tarnished by broken contracts and violated faith, in the very hour when all the nations of the earth were admiring and almost adoring the splendor of her rising.

By the unanimous Order of Congress,

JOHN JAY, President.

Philadelphia, September 13, 1779.

Macungy, Northampton county, State of Pennsylvania,
July 16, 1779.

Five Hundred Pounds Reward.

WHEREAS a certain DANIEL CALLAGHAN, clerk to the subscriber, ran away the 15th inst. with a certain sum of continental money not less than *Eleven Thousand Pounds*, belonging to the continent. The said Callaghan is of a fair complexion, about five feet ten inches high, full eyed, and a wry nose, very eloquent in complimenting gentlemen. The said Callaghan had on and took with him a castor hat, two fine shirts, one white stock, one black handkerchief, his hair tied behind with a black ribband, one pair white ribb'd stockings, one snuff coloured coat, one ribb'd jacket and breeches of the same stuff, one pair of leather breeches, and other things not known. Whoever takes up and secures the said Callaghan in any gaol, so that he may be brought to justice, shall receive the above reward, and reasonable charges paid by

th. **JOHN WHETZELL, A. C. P.**

Two Hundred Dollars Reward.

STRAYED or stolen out of the pasture of the subscriber, living in Roxbury, Morris county, on the night of the 27th instant, a Black Stallion, about 15 hands high, slim built, with a short blaze in the forehead; hath a thin mane and tail, a white spot in his near eye, and has neither brand nor ear-mark; trots chiefly, but can pace a little, and canters; is part blooded, and about five years old. Also, a Light Brown Mare, about 14 hands high, paces and trots, but is naturally a pacer; hath a small star in the forehead, one white hind foot, and has neither brand nor ear-mark; she is somewhat flat-sided, goes low before, and is about five years old.

Whoever takes up and secures said horse and mare, so that the owner may have them again, shall have One Hundred Dollars, or Fifty Dollars for either of them, and One Hundred Dollars for the thief, so that he may be brought to justice, paid by me,

Aug. 31. †4w

HENRY BURNET.

Wanted Immediately,
TWO APPRENTICE LADS, who can read and write. Enquire of the Printer.

Two Hundred Dollars Reward.

RUN AWAY last Monday night, the 30th of Aug. 1779, from the subscriber living in the township of Reading, Hunterdon county, and state of West New-Jersey, a Negro Man named TONE, about 30 years old, well built, about 5 feet 10 inches high, talks good English and Low Dutch. Also, another named CHARLES, about 17 years of age, about 6 feet high, of a yellow complexion, squints very much with his eyes; he can talk good English and Low Dutch. As they took with them a number of cloaths, their dres is not described: It is supposed their intention is for Staten-Island. Any person that will take up said two negroes, and secure them in safe gaol, so that their master may have them again, shall receive for each Eighty Dollars, and expences paid; or if delivered to the owner at his house, the above reward, and reasonable charges paid by

Aug. 31. † 3w.

CORNELIUS VANHORN.

James Emerson

Hath for sale at his store in Trenton,

DOCTOR RYAN'S incomparable worm-destroying **SUGAR PLUMBS**, necessary to be kept in all families. Also,

Russia sheetings and drillings, fine Irish linens 7-8 and yard-wide; coarse German do. calicoes, cambrick, lawn, flowered muslin for aprons, everlasting, serge, rattinet, black velvet for breeches or jackets, black silk handkerchiefs, check do. India nankeens, snuff and tobacco, with sundry other articles, which he will sell as reasonable as the times will admit; he also takes **BEEES-WAX** in exchange for goods, or pays cash for it. †

One Thousand Dollars Reward.

STOLEN from the Subscriber, living in Albany, a large green **LEATHER POCKET-BOOK**, containing three loan-office certificates, of four hundred dollars each; taken out of the loan-office at Philadelphia, by Dr. Isaac Foster, Sept. 26, 1778, payable to him or the bearer; their numbers are 6331, 6339, 6340. Also about 3600 dollars in cash; a receipt of Derick Ten Bræck, Esq. C. L. O. for 3640 dollars for exchange; thirteen second class states lottery tickets, and a number of other valuable papers. Any person detecting the thief, with the pocket-book, &c. so that he may be brought to punishment, and the book, with the contents, restored to the owner, shall receive the above reward and reasonable expences, or a proportionable part thereof for either the thief, pocket-book, certificates, cash or papers, by applying to Dr. Jonathan Potts, in Philadelphia; Col. Udeny Hay, at Fish-Kill; or to

ROB. JOHNSTON, A. D. D. G. H.

Fish-Kill, August 17.

Two Hundred Dollars Reward.

STOLEN from the subscriber, near the six mile run Dutch meeting-house, in Middlesex county, on the evening of the 10th of this inst. a dark bay Mare, 15 and a half hands high, a natural trotter, is half-blooded, and carries well, four years old last spring, has no natural marks, and is branded with the shape of a heart on one of her thighs. Any person that will apprehend the thief, and deliver the mare to the owner, shall be intitled to the above reward, or One Hundred and Fifty Dollars for the mare only, and all reasonable charges paid by **JOHN BARRICKLOW.**

September 13, 1779. 4w.*

Pitt's Town, Sept. 1, 1779.

WHEREAS a considerable number of horses belonging to the continental army, has been put to pasture in this state the past summer, by which means many of them have strayed away:

These are therefore to desire all persons, in whose custody any such horses may be, to return them immediately to the quartermaster of the county where they may be, and they shall be reasonably rewarded for their trouble; and all persons knowing of any such horses, or any other property of the United States, that is secreted and kept back, are desired to give information thereof to the nearest quartermaster, that the delinquent may be brought to justice.

By order of the quartermaster-general,

8w.

FURMAN YARD.

Squires Point, Sept. 9, 1779.

WHEREAS **JAMES LITTLE** has put an advertisement in the New-Jersey Gazette, cautioning all persons against buying the mills at Hackets Town, from me, against his better knowledge, as he has seen my deed: The subscriber begs leave to acquaint the publick, that he has a good title for the said mills from Mr. Cromeline, who sold it to him a long time ago, for the benefit of Mr. Kelem's creditors, as he was one. Whoever inclines to purchase the said mills, can see the deed, and I will warrant and defend the same against all pretended purchasers, or those who purchase and never pay.

The mill now rents for 600 bushels of wheat per annum. 2w* **GARRET RAPALJIE.**

A Quantity of excellent

Lampblack,

In Paper Barrels,

To be Sold by Wholesale or Retail,

At the Printing-Office in Trenton.

BY virtue of an Act of the General Assembly of the state of New-Jersey, passed the last session, at Trenton, intitled, "An Act for vesting the real estate of William Alexander, Earl of Stirling, within this state, in trustees, to discharge, by the sale thereof, or of so much as may suffice, the debts and incumbrances affecting the same, and to convey to him the remainder, if any there be," will be sold at publick vendue, at the under-mentioned times and places, sundry tracts of land, cultivated farms, houses, &c. being part of the real estate of the said Earl of Stirling, in the said state of New-Jersey, as follows:

On Monday the 11th of October next, at Brewster's tavern at Baskenridge, all that fine farm and mansion-house at Baskenridge, the residence of the said Earl of Stirling, with all the elegant buildings, gardens, &c. containing about 1000 acres, of which about 300 is cleared upland, 300 acres of meadow fit for the scythe, and the remainder timber swamp capable of making the most excellent meadow. On this farm there are about 1500 fine bearing apple-trees of the best kind, besides several hundreds of peaches, peaches, plumbs and cherries in the greatest variety.

On Wednesday the 13th of October, at Arnold's tavern in Morris-Town, from day to day, and to such places by adjournment as shall be found most convenient, twelve lots of 98 acres each, adjoining each other, situate in the Great Swamp, in Morris county, in the front of the above mansions, bounded northerly by the north line of the said swamp, each lot being fourteen chains broad and seventy chains long. They are about four miles southerly from Morris-Town, in one of the best settled parts of New-Jersey. Each lot has several acres of cleared plowland and meadow; the greatest part of them are capable of being made most excellent meadow, with rich chestnut ridges intersecting them. These lands will be shewn by Jonathan Stiles, Esq. and Capt. John Lindly, who live contiguous to them.

Also twelve other lots adjoining, whose sale will succeed the above; containing 86 acres each, on the south side of the said swamp, adjoining the north side of Long-Hill, about seven miles southerly from Morris-Town and two or three miles from Baskenridge: The soil is excellent for meadow, and some ridges of plow-land. Major Cornelius Ludlow, of Long-Hill, will shew these lands. Each lot is ten chains broad and eighty-six chains long.

Also eight lots of fifty to sixty-five acres each, whose sale will succeed the preceding, on the north-east part of the said swamp, on each side of the forge-lot, on Pine-Brook. These lots are each of them ten chains broad, and from fifty to sixty-five chains long; they have some valuable improved upland and meadows; the whole most excellent soil, well watered, and the greatest part capable of being made most excellent meadow. They are situate about four miles south easterly from Morris-Town.

One lot of about 130 acres, adjoining the above eight lots, and will be sold next in succession. It includes a good stream, Pine-Brook, with a very fine mill-dam, the remains of a bloomary forge and saw-mill, some good buildings, and improved meadows and plow-lands. These lands will also be shewn by Cornelius Ludlow or Jonathan Stiles, Esq.

On Monday the 1st day of November next, at the house commonly called Stell's tavern, near the Virginia encampment, at or near Middlebrook, a tract of about 1000 acres, on the west branch of Middlebrook, in the vale between the first and second mountain, leased in six farms, the leases expired, very good interval lands, and most excellent timber-land, contiguous to the farms on Raritan river.

On Wednesday the 3d day of November next, at Phipis's tavern, in Pluck'em, a tract of 800 acres adjoining or near the artillery park at Pluck'em. This is chiefly timber-land, with some small improvements.

On Monday the 15th of November next, at Hackett's-Town, in Sussex county, about 2500 acres of land, in several farms of good improved upland and meadow, the remainder excellent timber-land and fine swamps, in the said county of Sussex, bounded partly by the Muskonetcong river, and bordering on Hackett's-Town. The leases are all expired. A proper person will be appointed at Hackett's-Town to shew these lands. The road from Morris to Easton on Delaware, and the great road from Trenton to Sussex courthouse, passes through this tract.

On Wednesday the first day of December next, at the tavern at Crosswicks, two tracts of land near Crosswicks, adjoining Plumstead's and Willcock's land, containing about 546 acres.

N. B. Continental money or loan-office certificates will be received in payment, and conveyances executed agreeable to the instructions of the above act, by

July 20, 1779.

RICHARD STEVENS,
JOHN MEHELM, } Trustees.