

NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 1781.

From the PENNSYLVANIA PACKET. TO THE PUBLICK.

On the 17th day of May, 1781, the following plan was submitted to the consideration of the United States, in Congress assembled.

Plan for establishing a National Bank, for the United States of North-America.

I.
THAT a subscription be opened for four hundred thousand dollars, in shares of four hundred dollars each, to be paid in gold or silver.

II.
That the subscription be paid into the hands of George Clymer, and John Nixon, Esquires, or their agents.

III.
That every subscriber, of less than five shares, pay the whole sum on the day of his subscription.

IV.
That every subscriber of five shares, or upwards, pay one half the sum, on the day of his subscription, and the other half within three months of that day.

V.
That every holder of a share shall be entitled to vote by himself, his agent, or proxy properly appointed, at all elections of directors, and that he have as many votes as he holds shares, and that every subscriber may sell or transfer his share or shares, at his pleasure, the transfer being made in the Bank books, in presence and with the approbation of the proprietor, or his lawful attorney, the purchaser then to become entitled to the right of voting, &c.

VI.
That there be twelve Directors chosen from among those entitled to vote, who at their first meeting shall choose one as President.

VII.
That there be a meeting of the directors quarterly, for the purpose of regulating the affairs of the Bank, any seven of the directors to make a Board, and that the Board have power to adjourn from time to time.

VIII.
That the Board of Directors determine the manner of doing business, and the rules and forms to be pursued, appoint the various officers which they may find necessary, and dispose of the money and credit of the Bank, for the interest and benefit of the proprietors, and make from time to time such dividends, out of the profits, as they may think proper.

IX.
That the Board be empowered from time to time, to open new subscriptions, for the purpose of encreasing the capital of the Bank, on such terms and conditions as they shall think proper.

X.
That the Board shall at every quarterly meeting choose two Directors, to inspect and controul the business of the Bank, for the ensuing three months.

XI.
That the Inspectors so chosen, shall, on the evening of every day, Sundays excepted, deliver to the Superintendent of the finances of America, a state of the cash account, and of the notes issued and received.

XII.
That the Bank notes, payable on demand, shall by law be made receivable in the duties and taxes of every state in the union, and from the respective states, by the treasury of the United States, as specie.

XIII.
That the Superintendent of the finances of America shall have a right, at all times, to examine into the affairs of the Bank, and for that purpose shall have access to all the books and papers.

XIV.
That any director or officer of the Bank, who shall convert any of the property, monies or credits thereof, to his own use, or shall any other way be guilty of fraud or embezzlement, shall forfeit all his share or stock to the company.

XV.
That laws shall be passed making it felony without benefit of clergy, to commit such fraud or embezzlement.

XVI.
That the subscribers shall be incorporated under the name of the President, Directors and company of the Bank of North-America.

XVII.

That none of the Directors shall be entitled to any pecuniary advantage for his attendance on the duties of his office as Director, or as President, or Inspector, unless an alteration, in this respect, shall hereafter be made, by the consent of a majority of the stock-holders, at a general election.

XVIII.

That as soon as the subscription shall be filled, George Clymer and John Nixon, Esqrs. shall publish a list of the names and sums respectively subscribed, with the place of abode of the subscribers, and appoint a day for the choice of Directors, to whom, when chosen, they shall deliver over the money by them received.

On the 26th day of May, 1781, after maturely considering the above plan, Congress came to the following resolutions upon that subject.

By the UNITED STATES in Congress assembled, May 26, 1781.

Resolved, That Congress do approve of the plan for establishing a national Bank in these United States, submitted to their consideration, by Mr. Robert Morris, the 17th May, 1781, and that they will promote and support the same, by such ways and means, from time to time, as may appear necessary for the institution, and be consistent with the publick good.

Resolved, That the subscribers to the said Bank shall be incorporated, agreeably to the principles and terms of the plan under the name of the President, Directors and company of the Bank of North-America, so soon as the subscription shall be filled, the Directors and President chosen, and application for that purpose be made to Congress, by the President and Directors elected.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several states, by proper laws for that purpose, to provide, that no other Bank or Bankers shall be established or permitted within the said states, respectively, during the war.

Resolved, That the notes hereafter to be issued by the said Bank, payable on demand, shall be receivable in payment of all taxes, duties and debts due, or that may become due or payable to the United States.

Resolved, That Congress will recommend to the several Legislatures to pass laws, making it felony, without benefit of clergy, for any person to counterfeit Bank notes, or to pass such notes, knowing them to be counterfeit; also, making it felony, without benefit of clergy, for any President, Inspector, Director, officer or servant of the Bank, to convert any of the property, money, or credit of the said Bank to his own use, or in any other way to be guilty of fraud or embezzlement, as an officer or servant of the said Bank.

Extract from the minutes,
CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

This full acquiescence of the supreme representatives of America, gives such weight to the reasonings on that subject, as carries with it the fullest conviction.

It is not therefore to enforce but to explain the plan, that I have taken the liberty to submit the following observations.

The four first articles relate to the stock and the means of obtaining it—Four hundred thousand dollars are named; because it is conceived that such sum will be speedily and readily subscribed: how far it may be adequate to the purposes in view, or how much greater sum might have been subscribed, are unnecessary questions: let us at present make use of the resources clearly in our power, and if (as is most probable) those resources shall on experiment appear greater than at present, then, according to the ninth article, the operation may be further extended, so as fully to answer the end proposed.

The gentlemen named to receive the subscriptions are the present Directors of the Pennsylvania Bank: as this business must of necessity be, in the present instance, transacted by private persons, and as they are generally known in that line, they naturally present themselves to our consideration; their private characters will give additional weight to all their exertions.

The eighteenth article points out the mode of delivering the business over out of their hands into those of the proper officers.

The sixteenth article, which provides for the incorporation is of such apparent propriety that nothing need be said upon that subject; and the fifth article, designating the rights of the stock-holders, is founded on principles so well known, understood and felt throughout America, that explanations or arguments would be superfluous.

The sixth, seventh, eighth and tenth articles, contain the outlines of the civil government of the corporation after it shall have been formed, as the holders will not only be numerous but be scattered through this country, and perhaps some of them reside in Europe, it will be impossible for them to manage in person, their own interests: the common doctrine of representation, therefore, becomes necessary; how properly that doctrine is applied, is submitted to the consideration of those who may chuse to become concerned. In confidence, however, that they will be convinced, proper care is taken of individual interests as well as of the general concern.

The seventeenth article is framed according to our present situation, and what is conceived to be the disposition of mens minds to pursue the publick interest: if time and circumstances shall, by rendering the duties more laborious, or from any other cause, require an alteration, the means of making it are provided for.

The twelfth article is intended to give, on the part of government, that credit to Bank notes which the interest and convenience of individuals will naturally lead them to give in their turn. It is intended that the government shall derive advantages from this institution; government therefore should support it: not indeed by attempts to compel the acceptance of Bank notes; this would be equally unnecessary and unjust, but merely by receiving a medium, the value of which is unquestionable.

The fourteenth article contains that common provision against counterfeits, which the villany of a part of mankind has most unhappily compelled all governments to make in the like cases.

To those acquainted with the subject—It is unnecessary to observe, that when the credit of a Bank is fully established, and it is known to possess considerable funds, the notes will not only have an equal currency with gold and silver, but even be preferred to those precious metals. These notes are more portable, they are not like hard money, liable to be clipped, or otherwise fraudulently reduced; the care taken by bankers, for their own sakes, and the private checks they use and continually vary, provide much more effectually against counterfeits, than can be done by any kind of carriage, and the certainty of receiving gold and silver on demand, takes away the possibility of depreciation.

The credit of Bank paper from these circumstances has always been very great, in every country where Banks have been established. It is therefore almost reduced to a certainty, that it will be so in America, for in all reasoning on this subject, our surest guide is experience.

To prevent the Bank from abusing publick confidence, the eleventh and thirteenth articles are provided, by which the superintendent of the finances of the United States is enabled to see all their operations, of course from the deep interest which government must have in the integrity of their conduct, he will take care, that they do not swell their paper circulation beyond the reasonable bounds, which their capital will justify.

The Congress have entered so fully into the force of this reasoning, as wisely to provide by the third resolution against attempts, which private persons might make of a similar nature, and with equal propriety have extended the restriction only, during the continuance of the war, leaving to a future period the provisions which may then become necessary.

The fourteenth and fifteenth articles contain cautionary provisions, equally beneficial to the corporation and to the publick at large—Provisions, which are certainly founded in the most evident justice—For, however proper it may be, to mingle all possible mildness in the criminal law of a country; it cannot admit of a doubt, that the flagrant breach of the greatest publick trusts, ought to receive the extremest punishments, which can be inflicted by human laws.

To ask the end, which it is proposed to answer by this institution of a Bank, is merely to call the publick attention to the situation of our affairs. A depreciating paper currency has unhappily been the source of infinite private mischief, numberless frauds and the greatest distress—the national calamities have moved with an equal pace—and the publick credit has received the deepest injury. This is a circumstance, so unusual in republican governments, that we may boldly affirm, it cannot continue one moment, after the several legislatures shall have determined to take those vigorous and effectual measures, to which the publick voice now loudly commands their attention. In the mean-time, the exigencies of the United States require an anticipation of our revenues, while at the same time, there is not such confidence established, as will call out for that

purpose the funds of individual citizens.—The use then, of a Bank is, to aid the government by their monies and credit, for which they will have every proper reward and security. To gain from individuals that credit, which property, abilities and integrity, never fail to command.

To supply the loss of that paper money which, becoming more and more useless, calls every day more loudly for its final redemption, and to give a new spring to commerce, in the moment, when, by the removal of all restrictions, the citizens of America shall enjoy, and possess that freedom for which they contend.

In return for these benefits, the subscribers as they will be entitled to, so they will receive that advantage from this investment of their capital which has invariably attended the business of banking in every free commercial country.

It might be expected that some address should be made to the patriotism of the publick on this occasion; but this is needless; let the measure be examined, and let it be supported only so far as it is reasonable, useful, and just.

ROBERT MORRIS.

Philadelphia, May 28, 1781.

For the NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

"*Scribimus docti indoctaque.*"

IT is a melancholy reflection that at a time when our affairs abroad wear so favourable an aspect, and afford every prospect of effectual interposition in our cause, the publick reputation, interest and welfare, should suffer in ignorance, mismanagement, or something worse, at home.

It is generally acknowledged that the wisdom of experience is the best wisdom, and ought to have great weight in all political measures; and I believe we are the only people in the world who have so long and uniformly refused to follow this excellent guide.

Every argument addressed to the understandings of the people, and even the additional force of penal laws, have been tried to support the credit of the paper money. There was great liberality in the first mentioned reasoning, but both this and the laws enforcing the value of it, became a perfectly dead letter. The reason of this was obvious—the publick, as individuals, did not see their way clear—it did not appear on the face of the matter that there were any funds prepared to sink the money, or that there was any prospect of redeeming it.

As the nature and operation of paper money do not seem even at this day to be fully understood, I shall endeavour, in a few words, to explain them.—

I regard every state and country, with respect to its current paper money, as a great national Bank, which issues its bills specifying a certain value in each of them; and as paper has no intrinsic value, the credit of it is to be supplied by the opinion and confidence of the publick. But this opinion, and this confidence, cannot be created by the mere fiat of the legislative power. It must be shown, with the utmost clearness and perspicuity, that there are certain and effectually operative funds for the discharge or payment of such Bills in a reasonable time, otherwise the paper, however sanctioned by the supreme power in a state, will continue to be mere paper, rather the less valuable for being written or printed on. If the money is to be redeemed by a loan from abroad, the publick should be fully informed of the circumstances of such loan, of whom it is borrowed, of the sum, and in what manner it is to be paid; if by taxes, then that they are not only sufficient as to the quantum, but practicable as to the collecting them.—The people must be reasoned with—the legislature ought to shew, in one view, something like that exhibited every year to the publick in England—first the expenditures for the year, and, in the next place, the ways and means of raising them, all specified with the respective sum opposite to each general article, which should be calculated as nearly as possible.—Without measures of this sort to inform the publick on what foundation the fabrick of paper money stands, there will ever be an inconvenience and disadvantage attending it, and to force the faith of the people by penal laws, would be as absurd, cruel, unjust, and impossible, as it would be in the Pope of Rome to make us believe he is infallible, because he says he is so.

Money placed in the Bank of Holland is worth more than in any private man's pocket—and what is the reason?—Because it is safer in the opinion of those who place it there—and in proportion to this idea of security it is, that every Bank will have reputation and credit.

The notes of the Bank of England are, in many instances, preferred to specie, for the ease and safety with which they are sent from one part of the kingdom to the other.

But the moment the persons who are intrusted with the management of these Banks, or the legislative power, in a single instance, violate the honour of them, the credit of it, like the credit of a private banker, or trader, is of so delicate a nature, that no man will receive their bills at their former value.—Men must believe in before they will accept them, and individuals may be ruined, but they cannot be compelled even by torture to think otherwise.

In England, and some other countries of Europe, there is every year put in practice with success, a measure, which though not entirely parallel to the mode of procuring money here for publick occasions, is not in its principles wholly unlike it—I mean that of tak-

ing in subscriptions for the expences of the year on state securities—This is done in Britain on the promise of the Parliament to appropriate particular funds to the discharge of such sums of money, with the interest, which is usually done with a sacred regard to their engagement, founded in the justice and policy of the thing.

But suppose the monied men were not satisfied with respect to the sufficiency of such funds, or their due application, would such scheme bring the value of a pepper corn into the treasury? Surely not.—If in lieu of money such persons had corn or other provisions which would bring money at market, would they be willing to lend or exchange them for uncertain, nay uncalculated funds? Surely no.—But if even the funds were calculated and appropriated by law to this particular purpose, if in other instances the Parliament had discovered principles inconsistent with the plainest ideas of justice and equity, would it not be necessary, in order to recover their credit, instantly to rectify their conduct, and give this proof at least of their future good intentions?

Suppose the states of Holland, or any other state or states, should permit commissaries under colour of law to seize the property of the people at their own discretion, taking nearly the whole annual produce of one man's estate, and only a small part of another, and give him a certificate thrice or ten times sufficient to pay his taxes (to which purpose it can only be applied) and yet not transferable to a creditor, or for the necessities of life, nor considered in any respect as equivalent to the value of the thing received—Suppose the subject agreeably to the laws of his country to have placed a sum of money at interest on ample security, and the legislature should pass an act to seize into the hands of the publick the estates of disaffected persons against whom existed such claims for money lent, sell them, deposit the money in the treasury, refuse or neglect to pay the honest creditor, or pay him in a fifth or sixth part of this debt instead of the whole, though there is more than sufficient to pay his demand, and at same time tax him for such sum at use or interest; suppose they should allow, by law, the property of the subject to be adjudged by a court-martial instead of a jury of twelve men, according to the constitution of the country which mentions "that it shall remain confirmed as a part of the law WITHOUT REPEAL FOREVER"—Suppose they should continue to prevent the export of the produce of the country, at a time when there is more than the people can consume, and when their neighbours are rapidly making fortunes, thereby discouraging industry and trade, the two principal sources of a nation's prosperity—Suppose some of their laws to have a tendency in their operation to put an end to all traffick and dealing between man and man, and open a door for the dishonest part of the community to prey upon, and destroy the conscientious and upright—Suppose judges and justices obliged, in pursuance of their feveral offices, to fit and dispense the most flagrant injustice, and justify, under the operation of the law, acts that they would be ashamed to commit in their private capacities—Suppose from all these circumstances taken together, the rights of property violated, honesty baffled, industry discouraged, the course of law, in some instances, stopped and made to turn into new channels of injustice, fraud countenanced and encouraged, and even the ministers of justice obliged to award judgment in favour of the wrongdoer, would it not be performing an essential service to such a country to develop the causes and springs from whence these mischiefs flow, and thereby shew the people their danger, that they may endeavour to remedy them before they become inveterate and incurable. This will be the subject of a future paper.

A WHIG FREEHOLDER.

LONDON, January 23.

PROTEST in the House of Lords, occasioned by a message from the King, concerning his declaration of war against Holland.

DISSENTIENT.

1st. BECAUSE we cannot consent that this nation, and others, should be involved in the horrors of war, but upon the clearest proofs of justice and necessity. It would be particularly incompatible with the rank we hold in the kingdom, to give, without such proofs, a parliamentary sanction to a war against the ancient and natural allies of this nation.

It is from the justice of our cause only, and the absolute necessity of coming to such extremities, that we can account to God and our own consciences, for a measure which will plunge thousands of innocent beings in the greatest horrors of distress and misery. On this ground only can we presume to ask in our prayers for success, and hope for the protection of Providence.

We conceive that a careful and impartial examination of the correspondence between the minister of his Majesty, and his late Ambassador at the Hague, and of the memorials, complaints, requisitions, manifestoes, answers, and other papers, which have passed between the two courts, relative to the present rupture, is necessary, to enable Parliament to judge whether the hostilities which his Majesty has authorized his subjects to commence against the subjects of the United Provinces, are founded in justice or not; and that, therefore, this examination ought to have been made before Parliament can offer any advice to his Majesty, or promise any assistance.

The sudden attack which ministers have advised his Majesty to make on the property of our neighbours,

who navigated with that security which peace and their alliance with this nation gave them; this attack, made without allowing the time stipulated by treaty, even against enemies, that the property of individuals may have some security, and not be surprized into ruin by a sudden rupture, is a procedure which, from any explanation yet given, cannot appear but to be contrary to the right of nature, and a breach of publick faith. The bare recommendation of the minister cannot induce us to approve such conduct; and we cannot adopt the strained interpretation of treaties and reciprocal obligations, without having heard at least what our old friends and allies may alledge on their part.

But the influence of his Majesty's ministers over Parliament, has not only prevailed to reject a motion, made to obtain this necessary information, but also to engage the great council of the nation in an affair, which essentially affects its most important interests, to give a solemn opinion without having the least knowledge of the facts on which they have decided, with a blind deference to the will of the court.

2d. BECAUSE, That however valid the motives, founded in justice, may be, those of convenience ought possibly to have a preference; and such are not wanting on this occasion.

The uniform and approved system of our greatest statesmen has been, for near a century past, to form alliances with some powerful neighbours of the continent, to resist the ambitious views of the House of Bourbon. The Protestant Republick of Holland, because of its freedom, constitution, sentiments and religion, has always been considered as one of the principal supports of the liberties of Europe, in defence of which, she was twice on the point of being reduced by the power of France. We never believed that her ancient affection for Great-Britain could ever have been alienated, still less that an open rupture could have become necessary on our part, unless through great misconduct in our councils. We cannot but be most seriously alarmed at seeing the three great, free and protestant countries of Great-Britain, Holland and North-America, worrying each other, till in the end they may become a prey to the ancient enemy of them all, at such time as he may think it proper to turn his arms against them.

We cannot dissemble the unhappy situation into which, with respect to the neutral armed powers, we are plunged, in consequence of the unhappy American war. But as we are convinced that weak and wicked counsels have been the only cause of this unfortunate quarrel, we are persuaded that honest and able ministers would have prevented the present rupture with Holland from being one of its melancholy effects.

But as long as the measures which have caused our calamities (never before equalled) shall be continued and approved; as long as we see the present system of corruption prevail, which banishes from our councils abilities and honesty; as long as the interests of the state shall be sacrificed to the support of this system, and every attempt to reform shall be rejected, our situation can change only from bad to worse.

It is not our duty to predict events which are in the disposition of Providence; but if Providence continues to permit causes to produce their natural effects, from the manner in which our affairs are now conducted, we cannot but expect every danger, both at home and abroad, to this country, which a nation can possibly be exposed to.

RICHMOND, ROCKINGHAM,
PORTLAND, DEVONSHIRE,
(Signed) FITZWILLIAM, PEMBROKE,
HARCOURT, COVENTRY,
FERRERS,

HOUSE of COMMONS.

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 1781.

Mr. Ord, brought up the report of the resolutions come to by the Committee of Supply the preceeding day. While they were reading a second time, Sir Philip Jennings Clerke wished to know how the sum of 57,910 l. 12 s. voted for American sufferers, was applied, and whether any statement of the appropriation of it was before the House. The reason he asked was, because he knew that if some of the American sufferers had their real deserts, they would have haltars; it was owing to the false information which ministers received from such kind of gentry, that half our calamities had arisen. Sir Philip said, he understood, that if any of these pretended sufferers came and told such tales as pleased the ears of ministers, they obtained just what pensions they chose to ask for, and that the publick money was thus thrown away, not only with profusion and negligence, but to feed a set of vipers who were gnawing the very entrails of Great-Britain, and spilling her best blood. He declared, that he was informed one of these Americans, whose place in America brought him 400 l. a year, now received 500 l. a year, as a pension from government, and he appealed to the House, whether any man ought to receive more for being perfectly idle and having nothing to do, than when he was in actual employ, and had his hands full of business?

BOSTON, May 14.

By Capt. Grafton, who arrived at Salem, in 14 days from the Havanna, we are informed, that Spanish fleet, consisting of seventeen sail of the line with 4000 troops, sailed from the Havanna two days before he left that place, in pursuit of a large fleet of merchantmen from Jamaica.

Friday last arrived at Marblehead, a prize brig

twelve four pounders, laden with provisions, bound from Liverpool for New-York, taken by the Pilgrim. Saturday last arrived here a Guernsey privateer brig of 36 guns and 120 men, captured by the continental frigate Alliance, Capt. Barry, in company with a French frigate of 40 guns. The privateer made some resistance; but on receiving a broad side from the Alliance, struck. She has 15 tons of gunpowder on board, several of her guns are brass. A brig of 20 guns, at the time in concert made off, but was soon overtaken and left in company with the Alliance about 20 days since, when the above prize parted with them.

NEW-LONDON, May 18.

Tuesday arrived an empty sloop, prize to the Young-Cromwell, Capt. Buddington, who captured her at Jones's-Inlet, the south side of Long-Island.

Same day arrived a sloop, from Bermuda, bound to Charlestown, S. Carolina, laden with rum, prize to the brig Marquis, Capt. Richards; who, on the 1st instant, also captured a ship laden with naval stores, bound to Quebec, which vessel has not yet arrived.

PHILADELPHIA, May 26.
Fort Watson, April 23, 1781.

S I R,
LIEUTENANT Colonel Lee made a junction with me on Santee, the 14th instant, after a rapid march from Ramsey's Mill on Deep River, which he performed in eight days.

The 15th we marched to this place and invested it, our hope was to cut off their water; some riflemen and continentals immediately took post between the fort and the lake.

The fort was situated on a small hill, forty feet high, stockaded, with three rows of abatis around it, and no trees near enough to cover our men from their fire.

The third day after we had invested it, we found the enemy had sunk a well near the stockade, which we could not prevent them from, as we had no intrenching tools to make our approaches. We immediately determined to raise a work equal to the height of the fort: This arduous work was completed this morning by Major Maham, who undertook it. We then made a lodgment on the side of the mount near the stockade; this was performed with great spirit and address, by Ensign Johnson and Mr. Lee, a volunteer in Colonel Lee's legion, who with difficulty ascended the hill and pulled away the abatis, which induced the commandant to hoist a flag. Inclosed is the capitulation, which I hope may be approved of by you.

Our loss was two militia killed, and three continentals wounded.

On this occasion I am particularly indebted to Colonel Lee, for his advice and indefatigable diligence in every part of this tedious operation, against as strong a little fort as could be made on the most advantageous spot that could be wished for.

The officers and men performed every thing that could be expected, and Major Maham, of my brigade, had in a particular manner a great share in this success, by his unwearied diligence in executing a tower, which was the principal occasion of the reduction of the fort. In short, sir, I had the greatest satisfaction from every one under my command.

Inclosed is a list of the prisoners and stores taken. I shall, without loss of time, demolish the fort; after which I shall proceed to the high hills of Santee, and halt at Captain Richardson's plantation till further orders.

I have the honour to be,
With the greatest respect,
Sir, your most obedient
Humble servant,
FRANCIS MARION, B. G.

TERMS of CAPITULATION proposed by Lieutenant M'Kay, commandant of fort Watson.

I. The officers to be permitted their parole, to wear their side arms, and to possess their private baggage. Agreed.

II. The British soldiers to be permitted to march to Charles-Town, where they are to continue perfectly out of service till exchanged, and liable to be ordered elsewhere by the commander in chief of the American southern army. Agreed.

III. The irregulars to be treated as prisoners of war. Agreed.

IV. All publick stores to be delivered to the legion quartermaster, and the fort to be delivered up to Captain Oldham, who will take possession this evening with a detachment of Marylanders.

The capitulation is acceded to, as it now stands, in compliment to the gallantry with which it has been defended. (Signed,)

PATRICK CARNS, JAMES M'KAY,
Captain Leg. Infantry. Lieutenant.

April 23, 1781.

A LIST of PRISONERS taken at Scott's Lake.

April 23, 1781.
Commanding Officers.

Lieutenant M'Kay, commandant of the fort.
Surgeon Campbell, king's American regiment.
Ensign Robinson, loyal American regiment.
Lieutenant Lewis, South-Carolina rangers.
Ensign and quartermaster M'Kallam, ditto.
73 British privates.
36 Tories.
Total, 5 Commissioned officers, and 109 privates.

Extract of a letter from General Marion, dated April 21st, 1781.

"A small detachment which I sent to watch the enemy's movements in Camden, took, at the mouth of Kerfaw's creek, a boat laden with corn, killed two, wounded four and took six British soldiers and one tory.

"Col. Horry crossed the Pedee with seventy men to intercept the tories, who I expected would join Colonel Watfon in his march up Pedee; he fell in with a party of thirty foragers and as many more to cover them, he charged them on horseback, in Mr. M'Pherfon's plantation, killed two and took thirteen British soldiers, and two tories, two negroes, without the loss of a man.

"General Lillington reports that the Bladen militia, of North-Carolina fell with great spirit on the rear of Lord Cornwallis's army, as he was retreating to Wilmington, and killed thirteen men, and took between fifteen and twenty prisoners.

"General Pickens reports, that Colonel Clarke, on the 23d of March, had an action with Major Dunlap, near Ninety-Six, killed thirty-four, and took 42 prisoners; among the former the Major himself is numbered." Published by Order of Congress,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary,

May 30. Monday last arrived here the prize sloop Jane, from Charlestown bound for New-York, laden with rice, &c. sent in by the Rising Sun Privateer, of this port. She has been but a short time from Charlestown, and brings advice of Lord Rawdon's having burnt Camden, and retreated with his forces towards Charlestown. Upwards of one hundred wounded British officers and soldiers had been shipped from Wilmington to Charlestown, supposed to have suffered in the late action at Guilford Courthouse.

June 2. We hear the Honourable the Congress have passed a resolution, recommending to each of the states, a second time, immediately to repeal all tender laws. It is to be hoped this recommendation will not be treated with neglect. The salvation of America depends upon the restoration of CREDIT, both private and publick, and this can only be done by the repeal of laws which make it the interest of publick bodies and individuals to play the rogue.

We are told that there are petitions and instructions from some of the counties in Pennsylvania, against repealing the tender law. Does not this prove, above all things, the necessity of repealing that odious law? Does it not shew us the extreme depravity to which it has reduced some of our citizens? Who but men lost to every principle of virtue, could petition for a law to authorize and sanctify the worst species of fraud and injustice?

TRENTON, JUNE 6.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at St. Pierre, Martinique, to his correspondent in Philadelphia, dated May 1, 1781.

"It is with pleasure I inform you that on the 26th ult. a cutter arrived here from the French fleet. The General dispatched her back the same evening, with information of the enemy's force and position, being 17 sail of the line and 3 frigates, then lying to leeward of Fort-Royal. The timely arrival of this intelligence produced a most happy manœuvre on the part of the French.

"The British ignorant of their real force and expecting they would come through the channel of Dominique, continually paraded between Fort-Royal and St. Pierre, with all the consequential insolence with which the success of their inglorious depredations on the Dutch settlements could possibly inspire them, till on Sunday morning, the 29th, the Count de Graffe, having left the flutes and frigates to guard the transports, came up with them in the channel of St. Lucie. At 8 in the morning, the headmost division of the French, began to attack the rear of the British, composed of nine of their strongest ships, which went rather from the wind, with a view of drawing the attention of the French from their convoy, then just heaving in fight. By this means they avoided coming to a close and general engagement.

"At 3 in the afternoon the transports having all got safe into Fort-Royal-Bay, and 4 men of war coming out to join the French fleet, which had formed the line of battle at the distance of about a league from the English, the latter put before the wind, and the French after them with steering sails and every thing they could carry. I was in the channel during part of the action, but the clouds of smoke, which obscured the horizon, prevented me from distinguishing the event more particularly. Many of the more early spectators assured me that two of the enemy's ships were very considerably damaged.

"We have since the most favourable reports, but as they want confirmation, I shall omit them, assuring you that I shall take every opportunity of communicating such circumstances as may be interesting and well authenticated.

"The French fleet sailed from Brest the 22d March, with 153 transports, not one of whom is missing. A most remarkable passage, and much to the honour of the experienced officer by whom it was conducted.

"The troops are now embarking from hence to Fort-Royal, to join those arrived in the fleet. The defenceless situation of St. Lucie, the soldiers of whose garrison are mostly on board the fleet, raises a suspicion that an expedition is on foot against that island. We expect much from the enterprising and active disposition of the General de Bouillie; the best

understanding happily subsists between him and the Admiral, Count de Graffe."

The enemy acknowledge the loss of 200 men killed and wounded in the battle before Camden.

The brig Holker, Capt. Kain, is arrived at Philadelphia from the West-Indies. She brings a confirmation of the arrival of the Count de Graffe.

Several British armed ships have lately been cruising off the Capes of Delaware, and captured two or three of our trading vessels.

* * No mail from the eastward this week.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY
William Livingston, Esquire,

Governor, Captain-General and Commander in Chief in and over the state of New-Jersey, and territories thereunto belonging, Chancellor and Ordinary in the same.

Proclamation.

WHEREAS by a certain act of the Legislature of this state, intitled, *An Act to amend an Act, intitled, An Act for establishing a fund for sinking and redeeming the proportion of the bills of credit of the United States, assigned as the quota of this state*, passed at Trenton the seventeenth day of November last; it is enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the Governor and Privy Council, immediately after the passing the said act, and thereafter, from time to time, as often as the same may be thought necessary, to ascertain and declare the general current rate of exchange between continental currency and specie, as by the said act may more fully appear.

I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of the Honourable the Privy Council of this state, to issue this proclamation, to declare and make known to the citizens of this state, that the said Governor and Privy Council have, on the day of the date hereof, ascertained and declared, and do hereby ascertain and declare the present exchange between continental currency and specie to be ONE HUNDRED and SEVENTY-FIVE for ONE.

Given under my hand and seal at arms, at Princeton, the second day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one, and in the fifth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

WIL. LIVINGSTON.

By His Excellency's command,
BOWES REED, Sec'y.

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE.

A QUANTITY OF
Writing Paper

To be SOLD cheap for READY MONEY,
at the Printing-Office in Trenton.

Three Pounds in Gold or Silver Reward.

RAN away on Sunday night last, the 27th of this instant, from the subscriber living in Newtown Bucks County, Pennsylvania; a Negro woman named FANN, a short thick wench, about 18 or 19 years of age, very black, thick lips; had on a short gown and petticoat made of linsley, black and white stripes, a large bundle of other cloths for herself and female child, about three years old; it is expected she has been assisted by some negro or mulatto. Whoever takes up and secures said Negro wench and child, so that her master may have them again, shall receive the above Reward paid by SAMUEL YARDLEY.
May 29, 1781. 3 w†

Forty Pounds hard Money Reward.

ESCAPED from the guard at Hillsborough in the county of Somerset, in the morning of the 30th May last, Joseph Brown and Andrew Lintnor; the first formerly went by the name of Joseph Hubbs, is about 35 years of age, six feet high, and of slender make, he has brown hair, and is remarkable for having two spots of white hair on the crown of his head. The second, to wit, Andrew Lintnor, is about five feet six inches high, close well set, brown hair, and about 30 years of age. Whoever apprehends the above persons and delivers them to the subscriber, shall have the above Reward, or one half, if only one of them be taken and delivered as aforesaid.

PETER T. SCHENK, Sheriff.

April 1st, 1781.

WAS taken up a drift in the river Delaware, the 11th of May, ult. a raft of thirty white pine logs about 12 or 13 feet long, and two 36 feet long. Any person or persons proving his or their property, and paying charges, may have them again, by applying to the subscriber, at Burlington,
BRYEN DOREN.

N. B. If no application is made for them, they will be sold on the 25th instant June. 3 w*

STRAYED or stolen from the subscriber in Trenton, on the 31st of May, a BAY MARE, scarce fourteen hands high, six years old, both hind feet white, a small star in her forehead, short dock and small tail, and some saddle marks. Whoever takes up said mare and delivers her at Mr. Hunt's store in Trenton, shall receive Four Spanish milled Dollars, by
1 w* ROBERT ROBISON.

On the FREEDOM of the PRESS.

(Said to be written by Dr. FRANKLIN.)

WHILE free from force the Press remains,
Virtue and freedom cheer our plains,
And learning largesse bestows,
And keeps unlicens'd open house.
We to the nation's publick mart,
Our works of wit, and schemes of art,
And philosophic goods this way,
Like water-carriage, cheap convey.
This tree which knowledge so affords,
Inquisitors with flaming swords
From lay-approach with zeal defend,
Lest their own paradise should end.
The Press from her fecundous womb,
Brought forth the arts of Greece and Rome;
Her off'spring, skill'd in logic war,
Truth's banner wav'd in open air;
And lawless pow'r, the long kept field,
By reason quell'd, was forc'd to yield.
This Nurse of arts, and Freedom's fence,
To chain, is treason against sense;
And liberty, thy thousand tongues,
None silence who design no wrongs;
For those that use the gag's restraint,
First rob, before they stop complaint.

Thirty Spanish milled Dollars Reward.

RAN away from the subscriber, about five weeks ago, a Mulatto FELLOW, named Jack, about five feet two or three inches high, fair complexion, black bushy hair: Had on when he went away, a drab coloured cloth coat, leather breeches, a red furtout coat very large for him. He is a good tempered fellow when sober, but sulky and quarrelsome in liquor; he is well acquainted with the country, having been two or three times at Boston, and was servant to Doctor Hutchinson when the army were at Valley-forge. He is a good taylor, and probably may be skulking in some part of the country, working at that trade. Whoever takes up said fellow, and delivers him to the subscriber at Philadelphia, or George Davis at Trenton, shall have the above reward; and all persons are forbid harbouring him, as by so doing they will be prosecuted as the law directs.

ANDREW CALDWELL.

N. B. Said fellow would have been advertised before, but as he had a trick of absenting himself for two or three weeks at a time and returning home, it was thought he might do the same now.

May 18. 3w

Eight Silver Dollars Reward.

RAN away last night from the subscriber, in Middletown township, Bucks county, an Apprentice Lad, named William Worstill, about 19 years of age, 5 feet 6 inches high, light complexion, well-set and full-faced; he is remarkably fond of playing on the fife; by trade a miller: had on and took with him, a light-coloured coat, corded jacket and breeches, a corded coattee, and sundry clothes not known. He went off with one Joseph Gillam, a weaver, and John Twining, a labourer, and it is supposed they are making for New-York. Whoever will take up said apprentice, and secure him in any gaol, so that his master may get him again, shall have the above reward, and all reasonable charges paid by

May 26, 1781. JOSEPH JENKS. 3†

THE public are informed, that the Continental ferry, at present kept across Delaware river at the lower landing, will be discontinued after the sixth day of June next ensuing; and that attendance will be given at the upper or old ferry below the falls, for transporting the publick across from the seventh day of the aforesaid month of June.

Trenton, 30th May, 1781.

JOHN NEILSON,
D. Q. M. New-Jersey.

A QUANTITY OF Excellent SOAL-LEATHER

To be sold cheap for cash or produce. Inquire of the Printer.

JOSEPH INSLEE

HAS FOR SALE, AT PENNINGTON,

A few Tierces of best Liver Oil,

ALSO,

Pepper and Alspice,

By the Hundred Weight or less Quantity. May 3.

THE members of the Whig Society of Somerset will be pleased to recollect, that the society will meet on Friday the 8th of June at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, at the house of Mr. Merfion, tavernkeeper at Hillsborough.

JOHN TAYLOR, Sec.

TO BE SOLD,

BY the subscriber in Crosswicks, a General Assortment of Merchandize; Cedar Boards and Shingles; also a healthy Negro Girl, about fourteen years old.

JOHN VAN-EMBURGH.

Crosswicks, May 30th, 1781. 3w†

To whom it may concern.

THE subscriber, living in Mount-Holly, Burlington county, having administered on the estate of Elias Bland, late of Woodbridge in New-Jersey, deceased, requests those indebted to the said estate to pay; and those who have accounts are desired to bring them in, properly stated and attested, by the 10th of next month.

2m* Wm. CALVERT.
3d month 12, 1781.

PRINTING PAPER,

Of different SIZE and QUALITY, By the REAM or HUNDRED REAMS, Bookbinders and Bonnet Pasteboards, Wrapping Paper, &c.

Made and to be SOLD or EXCHANGED for

R A G S,

By STACY POTTS, in Trenton.

One Thouiand Continental Dollars Reward.

RAN AWAY on the 24th ult. from the subscriber in Hopewell, a negro man named Toney, about 35 years of age, five feet six or seven inches high.—Whoever takes up said negro, and secures him so that his master may have him again, shall have the above reward, and all reasonable charges paid by

ANDREW BLACKWELL.

N. B. All persons are forbid to harbour him at their peril. May 8, 1781. 1w† tf.

M I N E R S.

WANTED at Durham, five MINERS, who understand working on a regular vein of iron ore, to whom good encouragement will be given by

RICHARD BACKHOUSE.

May 16, 1781. 3w

Trenton and Elizabeth-Town Stage.

THE subscribers take this method to inform the publick, that they have erected a complete Stage-Waggon to go from this city to Trenton and Elizabeth-town, passing through Bristol: They flatter themselves that the mode they have taken to complete the journey, with ease and despatch, cannot fail giving satisfaction to those who please to favour them with their custom. The Stage to set off from the Conestogoe-Waggon, in Market-street, betwixt Fourth and Fifth-streets, Philadelphia, every Monday and Thursday mornings, precisely at six o'clock, and to reach Princeton the same day, there to meet another Stage, change Passengers, and reach Elizabeth-Town the next day, and so complete the journey in two days. The Price for each Passenger is *Thirty Shillings Specie*, or the value in other money, and the same for any Baggage weighing 150 lb.

EDWARD YOUNG, and

ICHABOD GRUMMOND.

N. B. No run goods to be admitted in this Stage, nor sealed letters, unless directed to gentlemen of the army of the United States.

WHEREAS publick notice was given last year in the Chatham papers, desiring all persons who have any demands against the estate of Sam. F. Parker, deceased, in Woodbridge in the county of Middlesex, on bond, bill or note, to bring them in, therefore I have given you notice once more if you do not bring them in by the last day of June next, or you may depend on being dealt with as the law directs, as I am determined to settle all I have to do with it; and all those who are indebted to the said estate are requested to make payment or expect trouble, and to come to the house where he deceased to have them settled.

ELIAS WINANS, Executor.

May 3. 3w†

TO BE SOLD,

A Valuable TRACT of LAND, in Hardwick township, Suffex county, state of New-Jersey, now in the tenure of Thomas Silverthorn. It contains 213 acres, 150 very rich meadow land, about 30 of which produce the best clover, timothy, and blue grass. It is excellent for raising hemp, and well calculated for raising and fattening cattle. There are on the premises, beside the dwelling-house, a pretty good Dutch barn, stables, barracks and spring-house, upwards of one hundred apple-trees, and a number of cherry and peach-trees; also a never failing spring of water sufficient for a hemp-mill, and situated conveniently to water a considerable quantity of the meadow. The title is indisputable. For terms apply to the printer of this paper.

Elizabeth-Town Stage Waggon.

THE subscribers inform the PUBLICK, that they have provided a convenient FLYING STAGE WAGGON, with four horses at the end of every twenty miles, suitable for carrying passengers and their baggage; and do engage to go two trips in every week, from Philadelphia to Elizabeth-Town, with this flying stage, after the 20th of May, 1781, and so continue till timely notice is given to the publick.—Will set out from the Bunch of Grapes, in Third-street, between Market and Arch-street, on every Monday and Thursday morning, precisely at the rising of the sun, breakfast at the Four-Lanes-End, shift horses, cross the New-Ferry just above Trenton Falls, dine at Jacob Bergen's, at Princeton, shift horses, lodge at Brunswick, the next day at Elizabeth-Town at ten o'clock in the forenoon. The same, every Tuesday and Friday, will set out from Doctor Winans's tavern, in Elizabeth-Town, precisely at three o'clock in the afternoon, for Brunswick; the next days, every Wednesday and Saturday, will breakfast at Princeton, dine at the Four-Lanes-End, from thence to Philadelphia.

The price for each passenger, from Philadelphia to Elizabeth-Town, to be Forty Shillings in GOLD or SILVER, or the value thereof in other money; and the like sum for 150 weight of baggage; and the same sum from Elizabeth-Town to Philadelphia, and so in proportion according to the length of way and weight.

The subscribers beg leave to return their thanks to all Gentlemen and Ladies who have been pleased to favour them with their custom, and hope for a continuance of the same, and they may depend on the punctual attendance of their humble servants,

GERSHOM JOHNSON, and

JAMES DRAKE.

April 30, 1781. N. B. Notice is hereby given, that Ladies and Gentlemen favouring us with their custom, may depend that they go as cheap in the above stage as in any other passing through Trenton, Princeton, &c.

TO BE SOLD,

By the Single, Dozen, Gross or Thousand, by ISAAC COLLINS,

At the Printing-Office in Trenton,

THE NEW TESTAMENT,

Printed on a good Type, and good Paper.

TO BE SOLD,

On reasonable terms, by

WILLIAM RICHARDS,

At Trenton Landing,

MOST of the medicines that are in use, also corks for beer and cyder, the best salt for fish and pork, mustard by the bottle, French barley, oatmeal, wooden ware, sweet oil, brimstone and antimony for horses, stone lime from one to one hundred bushels, snuff, vinegar by the gallon, and sundry other things. 6w

TO BE SOLD,

For HARD MONEY or CONTINENTAL,

A TRACT of LAND, containing about 1000 Acres, lying in the Corporation of New-Brunswick, on South-River, joining the island belonging to John Lawrence, Esq. late Mayor of Philadelphia. The place is well situated, having a good house and excellent orchard on it, and fresh meadow that will cut yearly at least one hundred loads of hay, a shad-fishery within thirty yards of the house, where great quantities of them are taken in the season, with other fish. The land is well timbered and convenient for the New-York market, having commodious landing places for boats of ten cords, from which place a number were employed to the New-York market.—For further particulars enquire of Levinus Clarkson, at New-Brunswick, Jacobus Van Zandt, at Morris-Town, or Joseph Milnor, at Trenton, who will agree for the same. An indisputable title will be given.

January 12, 1781. tbctf

TRENTON: Printed by ISAAC COLLINS. Advertisements of a moderate Length are inserted for *Two Thirds* of a Dollar hard Money each the first Week, and *One Sixth* for every Continuance, and long Ones in Proportion, or the real Exchange in Paper Currency—and by whom Essays, and Articles of Intelligence are thankfully received.