

NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1778.

LONDON, December 5.
DEBATE in the HOUSE of COMMONS on Tuesday.
(Continued from ours of March 4.)

THE question being loudly called for Mr. Dunning rose, and continued the debate by a short but pointed speech. He said he highly approved the motion of his honourable friend, and he hoped that he would persist in it to its full extent.

Thus indefinite, the Committee may enquire into every transaction of the Commissioners, and from that investigation, every measure of the Ministry, relating to the same end, would be laid open. At the same time he owned, if his honourable friend had applied to him as a counsel for advice on the propriety of making such motion, he certainly should have objected to it, and that for this plain reason—that such motions now a days produce nothing but an answer. He then reverted to the arguments of Mr. Stanley, in regard to the discovery of individuals by the exposure of papers. He was no danger that could attend such exposure. If A B C and D have even engaged in a fair and equitable negotiation, what hurt could follow from the discovery of their names? It is not to be supposed, that any unfair treaty has been entered into, for it is a self-evident proposition, that tampering with an individual in an indirect manner, could produce no decisive effort. He begged the House to consider the peculiar propriety of the present motion. The Commission to Lord and Sir William Howe, he said, followed upon an act originating in this House; and it was the duty of this House to examine the transactions that had followed their appointment. He concluded by observing, that he had risen to speak on the subject, in hopes that a further debate might arise upon it; and that the majority might not succeed in their clamours for a conclusion. Conscious of their superiority in point of Number, they are not anxious for superiority in point of argument or right; but for once he hoped, that even argument and right would bear some sway in a question of such magnitude and importance.

Mr. Attorney General objected to the motion, because he was convinced the disclosure required, would be prejudicial to administration, and hurtful to the negotiation, if any had taken place. The enquiry must necessarily extend to the very commencement of the negotiation, and sift the progress and proceedings of a transaction, which had died without conclusion. He said, he needed not to point out the transaction referred to; every one must be sensible he meant the proposition made to the Congress, and America at large, by the Commissioners on their first arrival. In that short negotiation, probably some circumstances may have occurred, which it would be dangerous to expose. He did not know that any had; he was perfectly ignorant of the whole transaction; nay, he could not believe that any had arisen, which could affect any man; certain, not any man employed by the government of Britain; but still the impropriety of exposure was apparent, from the possibility of such circumstances having existence. He continued to observe, that from the conclusion of that first negotiation, no other could arise; that produced nothing, and it entirely deprived the Commissioners from entering into a second treaty. They were not to treat with the Americans on the footing of independence; they were not to admit the claim; so that nothing can have been done. A new negotiation must have its origin in this House (here the minority were very loud) I repeat it, says he, a new negotiation must take its rise in this House. I am not ashamed to say it; as a Member of Parliament, I have a right to speak aloud my sentiments on every subject; but what at this time have I said to raise the laugh against me? I declared that our present Commissioners could have no powers granted to them from the act, to treat with rebels in arms claiming independence. They can have no right to conclude a peace on the footing of federal treaty; and until this House have agreed, that Britain ought to consider America as an independent power, which I hope they never will, the Commissioners cannot enter into any negotiation.

Mr. Thomas Townshend answered distinctly and pointedly the arguments of the Hon. Gentleman who spoke before him. He had declared, he said, that the first negotiation had proved ineffectual, but had not said for what reason it had failed; indeed Government had poorly excused the failure, by saying the Americans had set up for independence, and would not depart from that claim, and for that reason the negotiation failed. The Congress, on the other hand declare, that it broke off, because Commissioners could not, or would not shew their powers and commission. If the reason on our side be true, what

reprehension doth not Administration merit, for not sending forth their Commissioners before the claims of independence was set up? He averred it as a fact, the House know it, and the Ministry dare not deny it, that the Commissioners were not sent out till six months after passing the act. This criminal or wilful negligence gave rise to the claim of independence; that alone roused them to a sense of their situation, and the danger that hung upon them. He said, he was more surpris'd at an anecdote, that instant brought into the House, than ever he had been at all the former instances of ministerial absurdity. We are told here, that the papers cannot be laid before the House, because the disclosure may be hurtful to Administration; they may contain circumstances inconvenient to be known, injurious and perhaps fatal to the state. Such was the language of the noble Lord, and yet, mark the consequence, the motion hath passed in the Upper House. The papers, and a full disclosure of every hurtful, inconvenient, injurious, and perhaps fatal circumstance, is to be laid before the House of Lords. Is this a language proper for this House? Is this a treatment that the representatives of freemen can bear? We are not to be trusted; we must not know secrets; our superiors indeed may search into the state of the nation, but we are too dangerous, or too insignificant to be trusted. I will not make further comment on this affair; it is one of those glaring abuses which strikes to the heart without elucidation.

Lord North rose to attempt an excuse for refusing to pass the motion in the one House, when it had passed in the other; in the course of his speech he grew exceedingly warm and inflamed. He still persisted, he said, to declare, that the disclosure of such papers might be inconvenient, dangerous, and perhaps fatal; and whatever effect the anecdote brought into the House, might have on the minds of the House at large, he would still continue to object to the motion. In the other House, there were Noblemen servants of the King, entrusted with every secret of the Administration, who know the genius and the spirit of the House, and were the proper judges of what ought, and what ought not to come before them. He supposed they knew there was no crime in the papers called for, nothing that they were afraid or ashamed of bringing to light; but for his part, he was of opinion, no papers ought to be produced and made publick relating to a negotiation, before the negotiation was concluded; that was his opinion, and he would prove his principles by his practice. He concluded, by observing, that the Hon. Gentleman who spoke before him, behaved disrespectfully to the House in the last degree; he would not say he had done so wilfully, but perhaps the heat of debate had urged him too far.

Mr. Thomas Townshend justified himself from the aspersions of disrespect, and threw it upon the noble Lord. His conduct, he averred, in the present instance, was the height of disrespect, since he had declared, he durst not trust the house with a secret that all the world would know.

Governor Johnstone said, he was very sorry to see the Premier in a passion, though, he owned, there was sufficient cause to make any Member in a passion. It was a species of insult which the House of Commons never experienced before, and on the records of the House, would appear incredible to future generations. The assertion, that he durst not produce them, because the disclosure might be fatal, was beyond every thing he had ever heard, when, at the same time, they were produced within two hundred yards of the same place, and rendered notorious to all the world. Such curious conduct excited curiosity to search into its cause; and the only probable reason that he could assign for admitting them into one, and refusing them to the other, was, that the guardian Peers of the realm were perhaps so listless and indolent, that they would not look at the papers, nor would any secret transpire: whereas the assiduity and curiosity of the Commons would examine every item, and become acquainted with every circumstance. However that may be, continues the Governor, it is an anecdote worthy preservation, and I hope it will be imprinted on the minds of every individual Member in the House. He said, he thought it necessary to inform the House, that on a future day, he would move the House to go into a Committee to consider the situation of the East-India territories of Britain. He averred, that, with the loss of America, we should indisputably feel the loss of the Indies. They were in the most critical situation, and demanded the most serious attention of the State. The mode of government established in the Indies, contained within itself the lever of its fall. It had never been the fortune of any wide extended empire to form

permanent colonization, till Britain found the happy expedient, and by transplanting her own excellent Government into America, where it grew, and would have flourished in its original pride, had not the fatal axe of unfair taxation cut the tree to the ground. He would recommend, he said, a new mode of government for the East-Indies, and he was assured, unless such a mode was adopted, the rich territory would be for ever lost. He also would move the House on a future day, he said, to permit him to produce papers, to prove that the colonies of Britain did, and do pay taxes, heavy taxes, and in every degree proportionate to the supplies granted in this country. He meant, that they were taxed, he said for their own internal support, for clearing the waste lands, for the establishment of civil power, &c.

Colonel Barre said he would make one grave observation, viz. that when we were about to plunge into the American war, it was common to see ten or twelve Members rise at once to promote the measure; but now that we are talking of peace, hardly an advocate can be found to speak in its favour. He observed, that he had been long accustomed to assist a Minority. He knew not the reason, but there was a somewhat in his heart that induced him to assist the weak; for that reason, he said, he should be excused if for one night he joined the Premier, as he for a wonder was in a Minority. He has spoke, continues he, with great candour, good sense, and solid judgment; but unfortunately he is in a Minority; and I have been long convinced, that more than candour, sense, and judgment, are necessary to support a Minority. Perhaps some people may disbelieve that his Lordship is in a Minority. I will explain it to them. His Lordship is one of those Ministers who form the Cabinet Junto; there is one more only of the same Junto in this House; but there are five, I believe, in the other House; therefore his Lordship is in a Minority. I told some time ago, that there was a division in the Junto. You see, Mr. Speaker, my words are verified;—there is a division. And as the noble Lord has declared that they have endangered the state, and assented to disclose secrets that may be inconvenient and fatal, I advise him to impeach them; let him instantly impeach them, and I pledge my honour I will assist him;—I long to impeach them.

Lord North spoke a few words in reply; said he was not much accustomed to Minorities, and hoped he would be in a Majority that night.

Mr. Wedderburne called back the attention of the House to the question. He said, since ever the anecdote had arrived, the debate had dwelt on that, the passion of the Minister, and on Majorities and Minorities. As to the first, he said, he could not, in law or logic, find a reason for concluding, that because the question had passed in one place, it ought to do so in another. As to the second, he did not conceive that the Minister was in a passion;—he was obliged, indeed, to raise his voice on account of the clamours of other people. And as to the third, he could not rightly judge what the honourable gentleman meant by the terms Majority and Minority; he could not see any cause for suspecting the noble Lord to be in a Minority because the Ministers in the other House had not perhaps acted the same part with him. But it was impossible, he said, to determine on what grounds the question had passed; there might be an alteration in the terms and form of the motion; circumstances, not mentioned in the commons may have arisen there; or probably, as an honourable gentleman advanced, they may have been so well acquainted with the genius and complexion of the House, that they may have thought themselves secure in trusting them. He then reverted to the motion, and urged, that it was conceived in such general and indefinite terms, that during the existence of the negotiating power and *flagrante bello*, the discovery of papers might be truly fatal.

Mr. Dunning took merit to himself; he said, from being the cause of continuing the debate since he had introduced an anecdote of the utmost consequence, and which he hoped would penetrate to the heart of every Member in the House, he was sorry, he said, that the honourable gentleman who spoke before him affected to be ignorant of the terms Minority and Majority; he was certain, if he pleased, he could give a very clear definition of them, for he was occasionally an adherent of both. He did not think, however, that the noble Lord would be in a Minority unless he had given instructions to some of his adherents to leave him. (Here the Speaker called him to order) when he declared he had broke no point of order, and thought himself justified in proceeding. That the noble Lord would be of a Majority he was convinced, and therefore he could wish to address

himself to the members who would compose that Majority. He begged them to consider the manner in which they were treated; they were held unworthy to be trusted with a secret; they were told it would be fatal to trust them; and yet this mighty secret was thrown upon a board in another place, that every news-paper reader in London might be trusted with it. He begged them to reflect on the important situation which they held, their responsibility to a body of free and independent representatives, and the regard due to their own honours as men and members of a British parliament. He concluded by attempting to point out the inconsistency of the House first asking for information, and then refusing to grant it to themselves.

Mr. Speaker rose and said, the House would give him credit for an assertion, that he meant no aspersion against the honourable gentleman who spoke last, in calling him to order. He found it necessary, and he knew it to be his duty to adhere to one certain rule; and he hoped while he continued fair and impartial, to have the support of the House in enforcing that rule.

Mr. Fox, in a very long, pointed and severe speech, run over the whole ground of the debate. He said, he never heard the noble Lord so zealous to preserve the privileges of the House; not, says he, for their right of enquiring into the state of the nation; not for the right of enquiring into the conduct of the Ministry, the progress of the war, the negotiations towards peace; not for the right of calling for particular papers, and searching for secrets; but for the noble right of ignorance;—it is that privilege alone which the noble Lord is anxious to preserve; and no house but the Commons, says he, shall have the right to remain in ignorance. Such is the language, such the assertion, and the evident meaning of his this day's conduct. But to the motion: There is a technical term of *ton* used by you, Mr. Speaker, that when a proposition is not proved, or a motion rejected, it is called a *nihil*; but two *nihil*s make a *feri facias*. I wish to prove a truth from this. The act of parliament, and I suppose the commission possesses two means to be prosecuted towards bringing about a peace—the one by force; force hath been used, arms employed, and much blood and treasure wasted without effect. It hath produced—*nihil*. The second means was—by amicable negotiation. That too hath been practised, in some degree, and hath also produced—*nihil*. Here then are two *nihil*s which produce a *feri facias*. We are convinced that the mode adopted will not answer the end proposed. It is then our duty to fix on new measures, and adopt a scheme more amenable to the genius, temper, and inclination of the people with whom we have to do. They were considered, nay, they were declared by the noble Lord at the head of a certain department, to be *poltroons*, cowards, and dastard runaways. I beg leave to ask of that Lord, whether, from the tenor of their conduct, as described in the intelligence published this night, he now believes them to be so? I am of opinion he does not. I declare it appears to me, that we are as far as ever from gaining by conquest the peace we aim at. The news we have received is no way decisive, nor in any degree important. The army of Mr. Washington retired in full force, and remain posted in a secure situation, collected, and capable of offence and defence. He went into many other arguments, to shew the necessity of entering into the investigation for which he moved, and from the discoveries that would produce of concerting a new plan for negotiating peace with America.

For the NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL WASHINGTON.

SAY—on what hallow'd altar shall I find,
A sacred spark that can again light up
The muse's ardour in my wane of life,
And warm my bosom with poetic flame
Extinguish'd long—and yet, O WASHINGTON,
Thy worth unequal'd, thy heroic deeds,
Thy patriot virtues, and high-soaring fame,
Prompt irresistibly my feeble arm,
To grasp the long-forgotten lyre, and join
The universal chorus of thy praise.

When urg'd by thirst of arbitrary sway
And over-weening pride, a ruthless king
Grim spurn'd us, suppliants, from his haughty throne,
And in the tyrant all the father lost;
When to our prayers, with humble duty urg'd,
He, PHARAOH-like, his heart obdurate steel'd,
Denouncing dreadful vengeance, unprovok'd,
And all the dire calamities of war—
No ray of mercy beaming from his brow,
No olive-branch extended in his hand;
A sword unsheath'd, or ignominious yoke,
The only sad alternative propos'd—

Then with one voice thy country call'd thee forth,
Thee, WASHINGTON, she call'd:—With modest blush
But soul undaunted, thou the call obey'd,
To lead her armies to the martial field.—
Thee, WASHINGTON, she call'd to draw the sword,
And rather try the bloody chance of war
In virtue's cause, than suffer servile chains,
Intolerable bondage! to inclose
The limbs of those, whom God created free.

Lur'd by thy fame, and with thy virtues charm'd,
And by thy valour fir'd, around thee pour'd
AMERICA'S long-injur'd sons, resolv'd
To meet the veteran troops who oft had borne
BRITANNIA'S name, in thunder, round the world.

With warrior-bands, by Liberty impell'd,
And all their country glowing at their heart;
And prodigal of blood, when she requir'd,
Tho' destitute of war's essential aids,
(The well-stor'd armory, the nitrous grain,
The roaring cannon, and death-bearing ball)
Thou mad'st the solemn dread appeal to heav'n,—
The solemn dread appeal th' Almighty heard,
And smil'd success. Unfabled ASTREA weigh'd
Our cause in her eternal scales, and found
It just: While all-directing Providence,
Invisible, yet seen, mysterious, crown'd,
And more than crown'd our hopes; and strange to
tell!

Made British infidels, like Lucifer,
Believe and tremble. Thou, with troops new-rais'd,
Undisciplin'd; nor to the tented field
Inur'd, hast kept the hostile host aloof;
And oft discomfited: While victory
The laurel wreath around thy temples twin'd;
And TRENTON, FRINCETON prove thy bold enterprise;
Names then unknown to song, illustrious now,
Deriving immortality from thee.

Proceed, heaven-guided Chief, nor be dismay'd
At foreign myriads, or domestic foes,
(The best have foes, and foes evince their worth)
Soon, by one danger rous'd, one soul inspir'd,
One cause defending, on one goal intent,
From every quarter whence the winds can blow,
Assembled hosts their Hero shall attend,
Determin'd to be free.—Thou shalt thou lead,
To conquest lead, and make the tyrant rue
His execrable purpose to enslave;
And teach e'en British folly to be wise.
Far as th' encircling sun his chariot drives,
Thy fame shall spread; thy grateful country own
Her millions sav'd by thy victorious arm;
And rear eternal monuments of praise.

The arduous task absolv'd, the trumpet broke;
Of future glory, liberty and peace
The strong foundations laid, methinks I see
The god-like Hero gracefully retire,
And blood-stain'd MARS for fair POMONA chang'd)
His rural seat regain: His rural seat
Fresh-blooming at his visitation, smiles;
And in expressive silence speaks her joy.
There, recollecting oft thy past exploits,
(Feast of the soul ne'er cloying appetite)
And still assiduous for the public weal;
(Incumbent duty ne'er effac'd) amidst
Sequester'd haunts, and in the calm of life,
Methinks I see thee, SOLON-like, design
The future grandeur of confederate States
High tow'ring; or for legislation met,
Adjust in senate what thou sav'd in war.
And when by thousands wept, thou shalt resign
Thy sky-infus'd, and sky-returning spark,
May light supernal gild thy mortal hour,
But mortal to translate thee into life
That knows not death; then heaven's all-ruling Sire
Shall introduce thee to thy glad compeers,
The HAMPDENs, SIDNEYs, Freedom's genuine sons!
And BRUTUS' venerable shade, high-rais'd
On thrones erected in the taste of heav'n,
Distinguish'd thrones for patriot demi-gods,
(Who for their country's weal or toil'd, or bled.)
And one refer'd for thee: There enay's shafts
Nor tyrants e'er intrude, nor slavery glanks
Her galling chain; but star-crown'd LIBERTY
Replenient goddess! everlasting reigns.

HORTENTIUS.

STATE OF NEW-JERSEY.

An ACT to repeal the second and third sections of an act, intitled, An Act for completing the four battalions of this State in the Continental Service, as far as they relate to the hiring of substitutes.

WHEREAS the second and third sections of the act, intitled, An Act for completing the four battalions of this State in the Continental Service, passed the twenty-eighth day of May one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, have, on experience, been found prejudicial, and are not likely to answer the good purposes by them intended;

SECT. 1. BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the Council and General Assembly of this State, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the said second and third sections of the act, intitled, An act for completing the four battalions of this State in the Continental Service, passed the twenty-eighth day of May one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, as far as they relate to the hiring of substitutes, be, and they hereby are henceforward repealed and made void.

L O N D O N, December 6.

Extract of a letter from Gosport, dated Nov. 2.
"This evening the drums beat to arms, the prisoners at Forton having rose in a body to the number of 40, and forced their way out of the prison; and notwithstanding a stronger guard was immediately sent for from Portsmouth, and sent different ways round the country, eighteen of them made their escape, among whom is the Captain of the Oliver Cromwell, a most daring and resolute man."

CHARLES-TOWN, (South-Carolina) Jan. 29.
On Thursday the 15th instant, a little after four o'clock in the morning, a fire was discovered in the bake-house of one Moore, at the north end of Unicorn-street. The alarm being immediately given, a

number of people with the engines, &c. was soon assembled. but the wind blowing fresh at N. N. E. drove the flames with an impetuosity that could not be checked. The fire was so rapid in its progress, that before twelve o'clock it had entirely destroyed all Union-street; the fourth side of Queen-street from Mrs. Doyley's house to the Bay—greatest part of Chalmers' Alley—all the Bay, except 15 houses, from Queen-street to Granville's Bastion—the north side of Broad-street from Mr. Thomas Smith's house to the Bay; the fourth side of the same from Mr. Sarrazin's to Mr. Guerard's house—all Cadixen's alley—Elliot-street, excepting two houses—Bedon's alley—the east side of Church-street from Broad-street to Stoll's alley, excepting five tenements—and the whole of Tradd-street to the eastward of Church-street. The crackling of the flames—the dreadful columns of smoke, bearing with them myriads of large fiery flakes, which fell in all parts of the town lying in the direction of the wind—the roar of explosions—the crash of falling houses—the shrieks of unhappy sufferers—the horror painted in every countenance—the confusion apparent every where—and detecting the infamous wretches (and they were not a few) who availed themselves of the opportunity to piller—altogether formed one of the most dismal scenes of woe and distress that can possibly be conceived. Much praise is due to the officers and soldiers quartered in town, who afforded every assistance in their power to the inhabitants; and it was chiefly owing to their extraordinary exertions, that the houses at the south end of the Bay were preserved. Capt. Biddle, with a party of his crew also assisted, as did most of the masters and sailors belonging to the other vessels in harbour, and were of singular service. The fire did not proceed any farther after 12 o'clock on the 15th, but it is not yet entirely extinguished.

The number of dwelling-houses destroyed, exclusive of stores and out-houses, is upwards of 250. The quantity of merchandize and furniture lost is very considerable. The whole loss, by the most moderate computation, exceeds three millions of dollars: Many are of opinion it exceeds a million sterling. The number of lives lost is not so great as was at first apprehended: We have not heard of more than six, some of whom were Negroes.

The Charlestown Library Society's valuable collection of books, instruments and apparatus for astronomical and philosophical observations and experiments, &c. &c. being unfortunately placed in a house, in the neighbourhood of that in which the fire broke out, is almost entirely lost.

In the evening of the 15th, publick notice was given to all those who were at a loss for lodgings and victuals, that both were provided for them, at the publick expence, in the several publick buildings; and on the 16th the General Assembly voted 20,000l. for the immediate relief of the sufferers.

Our sister State of Georgia has remembered us in the hour of our distress: Their Assembly has generously voted 10,000 dollars for the unfortunate sufferers.

NEWBERN, (North-Carolina) February 13.
On Sunday last arrived here from the island of Providence, Mr. Wright Stanley, who was lately taken in the Letter of Marque sloop the Lydia, belonging to this port, and carried to Jamaica, where all the Americans that are taken are confined till they can be sent to England, but Mr. Stanley, with several Captains of vessels, were fortunate enough to make their escape to Providence.

Mr. Stanley, who himself, with Captains Cockran, Annibal, Moor, and some others arrived with him, were in the action, bring a very particular account of the taking the forts on the island of Providence, and cutting out of the harbour seven sail of vessels, one a very large Jamaica ship richly laden, with only a single privateer, and about 60 or 70 Americans. The account is as follows:

ABOUT 11 o'clock at night, on the 27th of January, the continental sloop of war Providence, mounting twelve 4 pounders, carrying 50 men, commanded by John Pech Rathburne, landed 25 of her crew under the command of his Captain of marines, on the island of New-Providence. They were joined by 18 or 20 Americans who had been made prisoners on board different ships of war, and made their escape from Jamaica and were there waiting for opportunities to their respective homes.

They took possession of fort Nassau with the cannon, ammunition, and 300 stand of small arms. A ship mounting 16 guns, 45 men, Johnson commander, with rum, sugar and coffee from Jamaica to New-York, lay there in the road, as also five vessels captured by the privateer sloop Gayton, Captain Chalmers, of Jamaica, and sent in there for condemnation.

At day break four men were sent on board the 16 gun ship to take possession and send the officers and crew into the fort, the commanding officer being shewn the 13 stripes hoisted in the fort, and informed that it was then in the hands of the Americans, who would sink the ship if the order was not immediately complied with, thought proper to submit, they were carried to the fort and there put in irons. Other parties were sent to take possession of the five prizes, which they soon effected, and secured their prize-masters in the same manner.

This being done, a party marched to the Governor's and demanded the keys of the eastern fort, which, after being informed what had happened (it

LOFTY,

AN imported HORSE from Great-Britain, is in full health and vigour, and stands at the stables of Mr. William Phillips in Maidenhead, in New-Jersey, and will cover Mares the ensuing season at the rate of EIGHT POUNDS each Mare. The proprietors of him have thought proper, the better to serve the public, to limit the number of Mares he shall cover to 40. Those that incline to send Mares for that purpose, will please to signify their intentions to the said William Phillips as early as possible, because the first applications that extend to the above number, will have their mares covered by the season, and no others will be received after the list is complete. LOFTY's size, colour and pedigree having been heretofore published, supersede the necessity of repetition.

Also HECTOR, an imported Horse, well known in this and the adjacent parts of the country, stands at the same place, and will likewise cover at Ten Dollars the season, and Five Dollars the single leap. Good pasture for mares will be provided. Maidenhead, March 21, 1778. 3 w*

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Ennis Graham, late of the city of New-York, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment to Elizabeth Graham, at Bound-Brook, Executrix, or to Mr. Walter Buchanan, at Morris-Town, or to Mr. John Thomson, at Pluckimin, New-Jersey, Executors of said estate. And all persons having demands against the same, are desired to make them without delay to the said Elizabeth Graham.

Said Elizabeth Graham has for sale superfine broadcloths of various colours, casamiers, rattinets, shalloons, durants, hairbinds, black and scarlet serge duely for breeches, white crape, cut and uncut Genoa velvets, silk and hair shag velvets, collar velvets, plushes, silks for vests and breeches, silk breeches patterns, embroidered tambour vests, striped Damask, nankeens, yellow canvas for stays, braid, gold and silver buttons, silk and hair buttons, metal ditto, coarse twist, sewing silks, silk stockings, knee garters, silk ferrits, silver buttons and loops for hats, mens gloves, sleeve buttons, mens thimbles, needles, tapes, livery lace, &c. &c.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of the Widow Van Alien, late of the city of New-Brunswick, deceased, are hereby requested to pay their respective accounts to the subscriber at Trenton, or to Mr. William Harrison in New-Brunswick: And those that have any demands against the said estate, are desired to bring in their accounts properly attested to the above named persons. SAMUEL H. SULLIVAN, Administrat. Millstone, March 16, 1778.

TO BE SOLD,

A GOOD FARM, situate in New-Jersey, Somerset county, near New Shannock, one mile from the church, and about 15 or 16 miles from New Brunswick, containing 235 acres, has on it a very good stone dwelling house well built, three rooms on a floor, and under it a very good cellar of one half the bigness of the whole house, the other half a good kitchen, and the out-houses but indifferent; a good orchard; the land is good for wheat and pasture; there is no great deal of meadow, but plenty of woodland. Whoever inclines to purchase may apply to Peter Schenk at Millstone, or Abraham Demott, at said church near the premises, who will agree on reasonable terms. The purchaser may have immediate possession. 4*

SAFFRON, PIGTAIL, PLUG AND SQUARE CUT TOBACCO,

To be sold WHOLESALE and RETAIL, by ISAAC HEULINGS, At his TOBACCO MANUFACTORY in BURLINGTON. 3 w*

Philadelphia County, March 18, 1778.

RAN AWAY the 24th of February, from the subscriber living in Bibury, a Scotch servant GIRL, named Christiana Gunn, about sixteen years of age, about five feet high, fresh complexion, and dark brown hair, long nose, little eyes, broad shoulders, a little pitted with the small-pox, thin lips, and wide mouth. Had on when she went away, a purple silk bonnet, a mixt duffel cloak, a tow shift and old linsy petticoat, a green upper ditto, a mixt coating jacket, a black handkerchief, blue yarn stockings, half worn shoes with low heels, and took with her a tow shift. 'Tis supposed she has gone to Philadelphia to her mother. Whoever secures the said servant in Burlington gaol, or brings her to me, shall have TWO DOLLARS reward and charges, paid by SAMUEL ROBBINS. 1 w*

STOLEN, on the 25th of March 1778, from under the shed of Thomas Bullman, at Pennington, a dark grey MARE, with a saddle and bridle almost new, she is about fourteen hands high, trots and paces, has a blaze in her forehead, was shod before, and has a middling long switch tail. Whoever takes up the thief, so that he may be brought to justice, and secures the mare, shall have TWENTY DOLLARS reward, or TWELVE DOLLARS for the mare only, paid by JOSEPH VANKIRK, living near Pennington. 3 w*

pany with another French ship of 20 guns, and the Continental ships Alfred and Raleigh, but parted company with the two latter 12 days after they came out of port; the other ship kept Capt. Michael company till about three weeks ago, when both vessels arrived at the mouth of James River, and the former going into the river was taken by a British man of war; upon which Captain Michael stood to the Eastward. Four days before his arrival here, he saw a fleet of 13 sail with two men of war under Continental colours, but supposes they were a British fleet.

The report of Doctor FRANKLIN's being assassinated appears to be without foundation; as he was well when this vessel sailed; which brings intelligence about twenty days later than what we had before received.

By Capt. Joshua Hempsted, jun. who came passenger in Capt. Fitch from North-Carolina, we learn, that about 70 sail of Bermudian vessels have, within three months past, arrived there with salt—That 6 ships, 1 snow and two brigs have also lately arrived there from France: That another brig from France was lately lost at Hatteras. But the people and cargo were saved: That trade is very brisk in North-Carolina: And that that state have drafted 5000 of their militia, to join General Washington's Army, to be commanded by Governor Caswell.

FISH-KILL, March 26.

'Tis rumoured, that a fleet, bound from England to New-York, is cast away on Nantucket shoals and the crews perished.—And that the Liverpool frigate was lately cast away on the south side of Long-Island.

TRENTON, April 1.

Agreeable to a Resolution of Congress, His Excellency the Governor of this state, with the advice of the Privy Council, has appointed Wednesday the 2d instant, to be observed as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer.

On Saturday night last a heavy northeast storm came on, and continued till Monday morning.

Last week a brig from Ireland, bound to New-York, with a large quantity of linc, butter, &c. &c. was taken off Egg-Harbour—and carried into a safe port. The sailors and several other persons, who were made prisoners in the brig, were brought to this town yesterday.

At several General Courts-Martial held at Camp in January and February last, nine persons, inhabitants of the State of Pennsylvania, having been found guilty of supplying the enemy with provisions, &c. contrary to a resolution of Congress, dated the 8th of October 1777, were sentenced either to be fined, whipped or imprisoned, which was confirmed by the Commander in Chief. These examples, it is hoped, will deter others from committing the like offence.

We hear from Somerset County, that on Friday the 20th ult. Mr. JOHN GORDON, in the 83d year of his age, was married to Miss SUKEY LANE, a young lady of 18.

Trenton, March 27, 1778, WHEREAS the Co-Partnership of SINGER and WITT is dissolved, they request all persons anyways indebted to said Partnership to pay off their respective accounts.

Likewise all persons indebted to either of them are requested to discharge their several accounts. And all those who have any demands against either of them, are desired to call and receive payment. ROBERT SINGER. FRANCIS WITT. March 28, 1778.

TEN DOLLARS REWARD.

RAN AWAY from the subscriber the 20th instant, a negro fellow named BEN, 22 years of age, remarkably stout and well made: Had on, when he went away, a homespun bearkin coat and jacket, leather breeches, and white stockings. He is supposed to be lurking about the neighbourhood of Trenton. Whoever takes up and secures said negro in any gaol so that his master may have him again, shall receive the above reward, and all reasonable charges paid by ELISHA LAWRENCE. 3 w*

Freehold, March 21, 1778.

JOSEPH RUE,

INTENDS to open a Latin school the 13th day of the ensuing month (April) at the house of Mr. Henry Perine, in Freehold, county of Monmouth, New-Jersey: Where the scholars shall be accommodated in the best manner, and at the lowest expence. All parents willing to put their children under his tuition, are desired to apply to him before the above day. 2 w*

Wanted for employment in Camp,

A GOOD CLERK, well skilled in Accounts, and who can produce satisfactory testimonials of his abilities and integrity; to whom a suitable salary will be given. Apply to the Printer, or at the Quarter-Master-General's Office in Camp.

TO BE SOLD,

By BENJAMIN SMITH in TRENTON, GREEN TEA; loaf and muscovado sugar; chocolate; pepper; allspice; cinnamon; allum; needles; mohair; sleeve buttons; fine and coarse teeth combs; sweeping and scrubbing brushes; tobacco, &c. &c. 3 w*

being then only ten-mile) he delivered. They took possession of that fort also, removed some powder and small-arms, spiked up the cannon and returned to fort Nassau.

All this was effected by ten o'clock, by which time the inhabitants were in the utmost surprize and confusion, and were removing their effects out of town, but were informed by the Americans that they did not intend to molest the person or property of any inhabitant of the island unless reduced to the necessity in their own defence.

About 12 o'clock a motley crew of negroes, mulattoes and whites, to the number of 150 or 200, appeared armed, and threatened to attack the fort, but on being told that if they presumed to fire a gun, the town should be laid in ashes; and seeing preparation for that purpose, they dispersed.

The Providence now came into the road, and anchored near the ship, and very soon after the Gayton also appeared. Continental colours were immediately struck, and the guns on board the Providence hoisted, in hopes the Gayton would come to an anchor, but signals being given by a number of persons from the beach and hills adjacent, the tacked and stood off, on which the fort began to play on her with 18 pounders, from which she received considerable damage, but under cover of night made her escape.

No attack was made this night on the fort, but next day at three o'clock two bodies of men, consisting of about 500 with several pieces of cannon, marched within sight of the fort, and summoned it to surrender, or that they should storm it and give no quarter. The garrison nailed their colours to the flag-staff, in the presence of the messengers, cut away the halliards, and returned for answer, that they would not surrender while a man survived.

Until twelve at night the garrison expected to be attacked, but their enemy being more disposed to sleep than fight, retired to rest.

Next morning early the prizes were manned, the guns of the fort spiked, the ammunition and small arms carried on board the privateer, and the whole garrison with their prisoners embarked, and put to sea. Two of the prizes being of little value were set on fire, the rest stood for New-England, except a sloop called the Tryall, which on the 7th instant safely arrived here with Captains Cockran, Moor, Annibal, Mr. Stanley, and some others belonging to this place.

Mr. Gambier has lately been appointed Governor of the island of Providence, and was just arrived there from England. He told Mr. Stanley, that before he left the British Court, he waited on Lord George Germain, and in a conversation with him on American affairs, the Minden hero told him the Americans were a headstrong perverse people, that they were pursuing their own ruin, and that as they never had been any thing but an expence to Britain, it might be better to acknowledge their independence.

WILLIAMSBURG, March 7.

From North-Carolina we learn, that Governor CASWELL had made up five thousand VOLUNTEERS, at the head of whom he was to march to reinforce General Washington in a few weeks.

A frigate of thirty guns, from France, is just arrived in North-Carolina, deeply laden with all sorts of necessaries for the army.

BALTIMORE, March 10.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman in Maritima to his friend in this town, dated Jan. 19, 1778.

"By sundry advices, already in your hand, you are informed of the protection and encouragement we Americans meet with in the French islands; indeed much more than we could expect from any neutral power. I send you a list of privateers fitted out and owned in this island, and cruising under Congress colours, viz. ship St. Peter, of 18 six pounders; brig Gen. Washington, 16 four pounders; sloop Ranger, 14 four pounders; sloop Fortune, 12 six pounders; sloop St. John, 14 four pounders; sloop New Rambler, 10 six pounders; schooner Success, 14 four pounders; brig Retaliation, 14 six pounders; there are eight others, chiefly sloops. These complete our cruising fleet, belonging to St. Pierre's. A great number of privateers, belonging to New-England, often put in here, many of which are very fortunate. No English vessels dare venture themselves in the English channel without a convoy, as there as they do, in a few days, they come addressed to some gentleman in this island. We have daily prizes coming in. The French vessels go and come uninterrupted.

"France, who is in a perfect state of security, for political reasons, would have Britain declare war against her if it; but convinced I am, at all events, she will not let us fall. Our late successes in America, may prevent their interfering vigorously in our behalf immediately, which they were prepared for.

"It is expected convoys will be granted us, and our vessels sail in large fleets for the continent."

NEW-LONDON, March 13.

Last Saturday arrived here from Port L'Orient in France, the ship Lyon, a three decker, of about 11 hundred tons burthen, commanded by Captain Michael, having a defensive commission, mounting 40 guns, and has upwards of 200 men, deep laden with European and India goods to a very large amount: She left Port L'Orient the 31st of December, in com-

Mr. PRINTER,

THE source of malice is inexhaustible; and to this the enemies of mankind have recourse, when all others fail them. A favourite object is to be obtained, however base and ungenerous the means necessary therefor. Hence it is that slander and defamation are so prevalent in the world. The sacred regard ever due to an unblemished reputation is of no farther estimation than as it coincides with the darling scheme: And if the station of any one should interfere, his character will suffer in proportion to the influence of the calumniator.

It has ever been matter of the highest pleasure to me, and, I dare say, to every American feeling himself nearly interested in the fate of his country, that the character of our great Commander has invariably been held in the most profound veneration. Nothing could give the common enemy more satisfaction than to diminish the esteem and applause he so justly receives. They have made some feeble efforts towards it: Their gazettes, the common vehicles of falsehood, have echoed a language their judgment never approved; and, no doubt, there are some among ourselves so lost to every principle of honour and integrity, as willingly to aid their diabolic attempts.

Men in high stations, however exalted their accomplishments, are always subject to the ill-natured censures of restless mortals, who expect to derive certain advantages from their own iniquity. There is a species of ambition, unawed by patriotism, uncurbed by reason, endued with the faculty of converting emulation into envy. People under the influence of this unruly passion, anxious of obtaining an exalted boon, and conscious of their unworthiness to possess it, direct their malevolence against those whose virtues they admire but cannot imitate. Detraction is substituted for proof of weakness, and false insinuations for wickedness of heart. This kind of artifice may impose upon the credulous and confirm the base, but will ever fill the unbiassed mind, actuated by noble sentiments, with indignation.

It is a fact universally admitted, that public confidence is requisite to support public characters. The man who has no fixed interest in the public opinion cannot rise in competition with him who hath.

In the beginning of this controversy, it is well known that General Washington was the only man to whom every part of America looked as a leader capable of conducting them through the impending storm. His uncommon abilities, his patience, fortitude and humanity have furnished the most convincing proofs that Heaven directed their choice. The many seemingly insurmountable difficulties he has encountered, attended with trifling misfortunes, serve to display his illustrious greatness and demonstrate indisputably that conquest, upon equal terms, could never sufficiently brighten the path of glory he was destined to pursue. A single victory, gained by lucky circumstances and followed by happy events, may immortalize a man of common abilities moving in a subordinate sphere; but, should his pride and vanity carry his ambition beyond its proper bounds, a single misfortune will render his condition infinitely worse than if he had never been successful: For, instead of sinking into desirable obscurity, his name will live in universal abhorrence and contempt.

That man alone who conducts with equal prudence and fortitude in prosperity and adversity; who possesses resources within himself for all occasions; who, despising the malicious censures of wicked and designing men, places a love of fame in real magnanimity; whose patriotic sentiments and conduct induce him to submit to the toils and hardships of the military life from an insatiable love to his country, is qualified to command the armies of America. That man is the virtuous Washington; and that man will be dear to millions yet unborn, when the page of history will record some for their insignificance only, who now dare speak disrespectfully of him.

Go on illustrious Chief! to lead thy chosen bands,
With increas'd numbers, to the field of Mars;
There, snatching vict'ry from the British foe,
Give peace and plenty to a bleeding land.
Then—heaven approving thy exalted deeds,
While grateful millions hail thee father, friend—
Return with laurels to thy happy mount,
And taste a-new the sweets of private life.
Rekindled in thy breast, the pure, the tender flame,
Endear'd by wedlock's holy, sacred rites,
Enjoy, in social converse and connubial love,
The most enrapturing charms that e'er adorn'd the fair.

When all the earthly joys that mortals can possess,
Or heaven bestow on patriotic minds,
Shall cease to please; and thy great soul,
Impatient of delay, shall burst the brittle shell,
Which holds it here,—expanded as the light of morn
Oh! may'st thou then ascend on wings seraphic,
To thy native skies: where smiling angels,
Crouding to behold the conquering Hero,

Shall lead thee, all immortal, all divine,
Up to the throne of God; there, freed from all thy toils

On earth, and crown'd with never fading glory,
Eternity itself employ'd shall make thee happy!

Princeton, March 7, 1778. A CITIZEN.

T O B E L E T

A VERY convenient HOUSE and GARDEN, either with or without a large Stable, situate near the subscriber's mills, and within two miles of Croffwicks.

WILLIAM LEWIS.

IF Mr. SAMUEL SCUDDER, who lately resided near Stow-Creek, in Salem county, is living, he may, by applying to either of the subscribers in Essex county, hear of something to his advantage. Any person who will give him the above intelligence will much oblige

JOHN and THOMAS SCUDDER.

A HORSE for Sale,

HE draws well; goes well in a carriage; but is peculiarly well fitted for a light horie or gentleman's hackney. He is six years old next grafs; full 15 hands high; nice made; well gaited, and his price 250 dollars. Apply to RICHARD WALKER, Esq. Bucks county, Forks of Nehameny.

T O B E S O L D,

A LARGE new DWELLING-HOUSE and forty-six acres of LAND, now in the possession of Henry Waddell at Freehold, in the county of Monmouth, New-Jersey. The house contains nine rooms, (seven of them with fire-places) two kitchens with bed-rooms for servants, a fine dry cellar, &c. The out-houses consist of a small building of three rooms, (two of them with fire-places) built for an office, a bathing-house, a milk-room, a smook-house, large and convenient stables for horses, a barn, an house for cattle, &c. The land is in good fence, and has on it an apple orchard and a peach orchard, containing together about seven hundred trees, also about one hundred and eighty trees, (brought from Prince's famous nursery on Long-Island) being a collection of the best fruit of all kinds, such as apples, pears, peaches, plumbs, nectarines, apricots, cherries, &c. Any person desirous of purchasing the above house and land may know the terms of sale by applying to Henry Waddell, who has also to dispose of one hundred acres of pasture land, lying within three quarters of a mile of the above premises.

Freehold, 7th February, 1778.

10w*

SIXTEEN DOLLARS REWARD.

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

JOS. JAY, Lieut.

February 23, 1778.

SIX POUNDS REWARD.

WAS STOLEN out of the stable at Neshameny Ferry, a young BLACK MARE, about three years old, fourteen hands two or three inches high, trots and canters, has a blaze down her face, her hind feet somewhat white, her tail trimmed down, very hollow old looking eye, large head; has been rode hard, which hath occasioned her fore fetlock joints to be shot forward, shod all round when taken away. Whoever apprehends and secures either, shall have THREE POUNDS reward, paid by me

JOSEPH VANDEGRIFT.

T O B E S O L D,

And may be entered on the first of April next, A PLANTATION, containing 95 acres of land, in the county of Middlesex, New-Jersey; 8 acres of which is excellent English meadow, about 50 acres of good wheat land, and the remainder in good timber. There is on the premises a convenient dwelling-house, kitchen and barn, a blacksmith's shop, and several other conveniencies. The whole in good repair. For terms apply to Joseph Potts, in Cranberry, or the subscriber on the premises.

South-Amboy,

Middlesex Co. March 6, 1778. } SAMUEL POTTS.

B O N D and P A I N,

Have for sale at their Store in Morristown,

BEST bohea tea, Muscovado sugar, spices of different kinds; a quantity of Dutch linen by the piece or yard, black and coloured Barcelona handkerchiefs by the dozen, black and coloured ribbons, with a variety of other articles too tedious to enumerate.

N. B. Said Bond and Pain make great allowance to those who buy to sell again; and would be willing to take country produce in barter.

Just published and now selling by
JOHN DUNLAP,
In QUEEN-STREET, LANCASTER,
Father ABRAHAM'S POCKET ALMANACK,
For the Year 1778.

Being the third Year of the Independence of America. Fitted to the use of Pennsylvania and the adjacent States.

C O N T A I N I N G

The articles of CONFEDERATION and PERPETUAL UNION of the United States of America, as proposed by Congress to the Legislatures of the different States.

This great Confederacy is so intimately connected with the Freedom, Happiness and Independence of the People of America, that no person can hold a proper rank in society, without being fully acquainted with its very important contents.

** The Astronomical Calculations of this Almanack are composed by DAVID RITTENHOUSE, A. M. of this State.

T O B E S O L D,

THE HOUSE wherein the Widow STILLE now lives in at Trenton: It has been a tavern for many years, and is well calculated for that business. Any person wanting to purchase, may apply to the subscriber near Spotfwood.

March 9, 1778.

JOHN JOHNSTON.

Princeton, March 24, 1778.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL at this place is to be again opened on Monday, the 13th of April. Those who have children to begin the Latin, are desired to be as punctual as possible in having them there at the time. JOHN WITHERSPOON.

THIRTY DOLLARS REWARD.

RAN AWAY in June 1776, from the subscriber, living in Amwell township, a Negro man named LUN, but it is probable he may change his name: He is about 30 years of age, about five feet eight or nine inches high, a thick well set fellow, has a remarkable scar on his upper lip of a cut, and is thought to have a pass with him. He is the Negro that formerly belonged to John Severns. Whoever takes up and secures him so that his master may get him again, shall have the above reward, and reasonable charges, paid by

ISAAC JOHNSON.

All persons are forbid to counsel or harbour this Negro at their peril.

South-Amboy, March 20, 1778.

NOTICE is hereby given that two Negro men lately came over from Staten-Island, and landed at South-Amboy; the one is a sturdy young fellow named JOE, about 26 years of age, and about five feet ten inches high: the other is also a sturdy fellow named JACK, about sixty years of age, and about six feet high; both of them are supposed to belong to persons in this state. The subscriber has them in charge, and is in fear that they may by chance get away; and therefore desirous that the owner or owners of said Negroes may speedily apply, prove their property, pay charges, and take them away.

6w*

JAMES MORGAN, Capt.

Somerset County, March 20, 1778.

**T H E N O T E D H O R S E
G R A N D B A Y,**

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

4w*

JONATHAN DUNN.

T O B E S O L D,

A PLANTATION in Middlesex County, Cranberry, and six miles from Spotfwood, containing about Three Hundred and Thirty Acres of Land with good buildings, well watered, well timbered, and a large quantity of meadow, and an excellent out-let. There is also joining said plantation, a House and Lot to be sold, containing about eight acres, consisting of about three acres of meadow, three of plough-land, and the remainder good timber, with good frame house and shop, well watered, convenient for any tradesman especially a shoemaker and tanner, and a good stand for a tavern. For farther particulars enquire of William Vanderipe or John Forman, both living on the premises.

A CORK CUTTER wanted at Trenton. Enquire of the Printer.

GOOD old FRENCH BRANDY, JAMAICA SPIRIT and WEST-INDIA RUM, to be sold by PETER SHIRAS, by the hoghead, barrel or gallon, very reasonable.