

# NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1781.

Copy of the petition of the West-India Planters and Merchants to the King, on the subject of the general seizure of private property, found in the Dutch islands of St. Eustatius and St. Martin's. To the KING's most Excellent Majesty.

The PETITION of the West-India Planters and Merchants,

Most humbly sheweth,

**T**HAT your petitioners have very considerable property, and debts due to them, in the several islands in the West-Indies, subject to the Crown of Great-Britain, as also in the islands of Grenada, the Grenadines, Dominica, and Saint Vincent, which have, in the course of the present hostilities, fallen under the dominion of France.

That they have always conceived it to be a maxim among civilized nations, established in humanity and sound policy, "that war would be carried on, with the least possible injury to private property, found in any countries or towns, which may be invaded or conquered;" the happy effects of which wise principle your petitioners have hitherto experienced, in the security of their estates and effects from rapine and plunder, which have been reciprocally discountenanced by the Governors in the West-Indies, as ruinous to individuals, and productive of no decisive advantage to any of the sovereign states concerned.

Your petitioners are therefore seriously alarmed at the general seizure, made by the commanders of your Majesty's sea and land forces, of goods, merchandise, and specie, found in the Dutch islands of Saint Eustatius and Saint Martin, on their surrendering, without resistance, and at discretion to the said commanders, humbly conceiving, that the inhabitants of places, which submit to the will, and surrender themselves to the discretion of an invading enemy, immediately upon such submission, become the subjects of that sovereign, or state, to whom the victorious army belongs; and, consequently, by their allegiance, are entitled to security in their persons and property; it being as repugnant to policy and humanity, to permit one class of subjects to plunder another, the trader having an equal claim with the soldier to the protection of government.

Your petitioners humbly beg leave to represent to your Majesty, that those Dutch islands did belong to a sovereign state, by whose authority and permission they were made, and have ever been FREE PORTS; and that they have been recognized as such, by Great-Britain, and all the other maritime powers of Europe, who have possessions in the West-Indies.

That Great-Britain, in particular, has never interdicted or prohibited, to her subjects, the trade to those Dutch islands, but has, on the contrary, permitted the exportation of great quantities of various articles of goods of the growth, produce, and manufacture of this country, which have been regularly and openly entered out, at the several ports in this kingdom, for the said Dutch islands.

That an act was passed last session of Parliament, for removing any legal debts arising out of the navigation act, respecting the importations of tobacco of the growth of the colonies in North-America, which having escaped British capture, had been imported, from the colonies in rebellion, into those Dutch islands, declaring and enacting, "that such tobacco might be legally imported from those, or any other, neutral islands, into Great-Britain;" by which act, the trade to the said islands of St. Eustatius and St. Martin, which had always been in many respects legal, became an object of publick encouragement, by being extended beyond what the strict construction of law seemed formerly to authorize.

That since the passing of the said act, and even before during the present rebellion, a great part of the tobacco, absolutely necessary for the consumption and revenue of Great-Britain, has been imported through that channel to the manifest benefit of the navigation of this kingdom; for, if the market had not been supplied by those means, there would have been an indispensable necessity for admitting tobacco from Holland, after having been carried thither from those islands in Dutch vessels; and Great-Britain would, consequently, have been deprived of the profit arising from the long navigation of that bulky commodity.

That, since the commencement of the American rebellion, the said islands of St. Eustatius and St. Martin have been frequently of the most essential service to the British leeward islands, particularly in the years 1777 and 1778, when the islands of Antigua and St. Christopher would have suffered all the miseries of actual famine, had not they drawn from

St. Eustatius those supplies which they formerly received from North-America.

That since the capture of Grenada, the Grenadines, Dominica and St. Vincent, those islands have been principally supplied with the several necessaries for their consumption, and for the cultivation of their plantations, through the medium of St. Eustatius, and that many British subjects, having property in those captured islands, have been obliged to establish houses of trade in the said island of St. Eustatius, for the express purpose of supplying those islands, and have ordered various articles to be shipped for St. Eustatius from Great-Britain, as well as from Holland.

That the great want of plantation stores, and other necessaries, in those captured islands, has also obliged many of the planters to ship, from time to time, a great part of the produce of their plantations to St. Eustatius, for the purpose of purchasing such plantation stores and necessaries.

That many of your Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects, on the faith of Great-Britain having recognized the trade, have settled as general traders in those Dutch islands, and have considerable property in goods, merchandise and money in the said islands; and that others of your Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects, as agents for the Dutch as well as British merchants in those islands, have shipped considerable quantities of goods and merchandise on account of the said merchants.

That those Dutch islands, particularly St. Eustatius, have therefore been, and ought to be, considered as free ports, open to all the world, where the subjects of all states in amity with Holland were equally welcome, where the goods imported by the hand of commerce were at open market, ready to be sold to the best bidder, without favour or affection, without any partial or political attachment or predilection to any of the powers at war, without regard to any other object than that of mercantile profit, which is the spring and soul of all commerce whatever; and that the value of the said islands to that sovereign power to which they belonged, as well as to your Majesty's subjects and other nations, consisted in their being universal open marts, and not in the inconsiderable production of their soil.

Your petitioners humbly beg leave to represent to your Majesty, that as a very considerable part of the property found in those Dutch islands must necessarily belong to many of your Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects, from the causes above stated, so there are likewise others of your Majesty's subjects, residing in Great-Britain and the British leeward islands, who are large creditors of the Dutch and British merchants in those Dutch islands, not only on account of goods and merchandise, openly and avowedly shipped by them, as the agents of the said merchants, but also in respect of dealings and engagements, antecedent to, and unconnected with, the trade carried on by such their debtors in those islands.

With respect to the property found in the islands, belonging to the subjects of the states of Holland, or any others of your Majesty's enemies, your petitioners, having already stated what they humbly conceive to be the humane and political practice of war, feel themselves impelled, on the principle of gratitude, to present to your royal view the conduct of the commanders of the French King's forces, and of the Court of France, in the case of the conquest of the islands of Grenada and Grenadines.

When the island of Grenada, after having made a zealous but unsuccessful defence against the enemy's force, surrendered at discretion, there was no plunder allowed, except on the Hospital-Hill, which was taken by storm, and where the small effects that were lodged, necessarily fell in furore belli, to the first assailants who could lay their hands upon them. The goods and merchandise in the town of St. George, in that island, to a very large amount, not merely intended for the use and consumption of the island, but for the general market of the West-Indies, remained untouched, and every species of property whatever was left inviolate, even the goods upon the keys and beach in various parts of the island.

There were indeed certain ordinances issued by the French Governor, on taking possession of the said island, by which the produce of all plantations belonging to absentees was to be sequestered until a peace and the payment of all debts due to your Majesty's subjects, residing in any part of your Majesty's dominions, was prohibited under pain of military execution. But on the application of the parties interested to the Court of France, those ordinances were immediately revoked by his Most Christian Majesty, and all persons whatever, whether present

or absent, were secured in the full possession of their estates and effects; His Most Christian Majesty having been pleased at the same time to express his disapprobation of those ordinances, "as tending to injure civil contracts, which are founded on the law of nature, and which form the most sacred bond of society, being the principal source of that reciprocal communication and intercourse subsisting between the subjects of all nations; to which contracts, and to private property in general, the practice of war, among civilized nations, has ever had the most tender regard."

Your petitioners likewise with pleasure reflect, that your Majesty in the very beginning of your reign, gave a striking example of clemency upon the capture of Dominica, the inhabitants of which island were settled there against express treaties, unacknowledged by any sovereign professing neutrality, yet exercising hostilities against your Majesty's subjects; and, when summoned to submit to your Majesty's arms, not only refused to surrender, but provoking an assault, were reduced sword in hand. Yet by your Majesty's wisdom and generosity, the inhabitants of that island were preserved in the possession of all their property.

Your petitioners do not conceive, those defenceless Dutch islands were surprised, and taken possession of, by your Majesty's arms, for the sake of inglorious spoil, but merely with a view to great political objects, in conducting the present hostilities against the combined enemies of Britain by depriving them, in future, of the convenience and advantage of those marts. They have ever considered Great-Britain as priding herself in acts of generosity and humanity, not less than in brilliant achievements of valour in war: And they are confident, that your Majesty will not permit the BRITISH NAME to be stained by a departure from that line of conduct, which hath hitherto so peculiarly characterized this nation for her sacred regard to the rights of mankind.

They beg leave to repeat to your Majesty, that the confiscation of private property in those Dutch islands, would grievously affect many of your Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects, who have traded there under the sanction of our laws, or who are creditors of merchants in the said islands; and, at the same time, to state to your Majesty, their apprehensions that such a measure, so far as it would injure the property of the subjects of the enemy, must necessarily tend to increase the calamities of war, by exciting desperate resistance, by exasperating our foes against the trading inhabitants of those islands which may hereafter be obliged to submit to their arms, and by establishing a predatory system, destructive and ruinous in its consequences to individuals, and of no solid benefit to the several states concerned.

Your petitioners do therefore most humbly, but fervently, pray that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to take the premises into your serious consideration, and remove the apprehensions of your petitioners, by adopting such measures, on the present occasion, as to your Majesty in your great wisdom, justice and clemency shall seem meet.

Signed by order, and in the name, and on the behalf, of the West-India planters and merchants.

Wm. CHRICHTON, Chairman  
of the general meeting on this special business.  
London, April 6, 1781.

L O N D O N, May 14.

By a letter from an officer on board the Union man of war, we receive the melancholy intelligence, that while the British force was before Gibraltar, the Spanish army were so very successful in throwing shells into the town, that almost the whole place was levelled with the ground. The store houses of provisions were set fire to, and totally destroyed. A number of the inhabitants lost their lives in this dreadful conflagration, and so complete was the havoc and demolition, that the remaining inhabitants were forced out to encamp on the rock and in the field. He writes that it is perfectly impossible to give any just description of the general horror and confusion, nor to estimate the loss that is sustained. Had it not been for the succours thrown in by the fleet, and which, by being deposited in the garrison, escaped the ruin, the whole town and army must have perished for want.

A letter from Amsterdam by the Flanders mail has the following articles: "It seems determined by the States to fit out the largest fleet of men of war they ever had before. They have dispatched agents to all parts to get shipwrights, and no expence is spared to procure the best hands. Some few English are come, who meet with great encouragement. An

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embargo is laid on all merchant ships, and the sailors taken out to man the men of war as fast as they can be got ready for sea; so that in a short time we shall have one of the most powerful fleets in Europe."

Some very unfavourable reports are spread respecting Gibraltar; if we may believe these reports, which are said to derive their source from an officer on board the Union man of war, almost the whole of that fortress is levelled with the ground, by the severe bombardment and cannonade made against it by the Spaniards, at the time we were relieving the place. On this occasion, also say these reports, the store houses were set on fire, upwards of three hundred of the inhabitants killed, and the rest obliged to take refuge out on the open rock and in the fields. That the bombardment and cannonade were terrible, is very certain, but how such prodigious damage could be done against a place built upon a rock, and amid works bomb proof, is not so easy credible. The whole of this report, therefore, may be resolved into a few sheds demolished, and some other wooden buildings destroyed, but cannot be extended to any real detriment done to the works.

The military in Edinburgh castle are ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march, in case any landing shall be attempted. A party of dragoons are set off from Muffelburgh for Dunbar, where it is said that a camp will soon be formed, to consist of 1000 foot.

The French and Spaniards have taken within a short time, about thirty sail of British ships near the channel, six of which are stout privateers; this is a sign that we are not Lords of the Ocean.

If the Jamaica fleet are taken, as there is too much reason to apprehend, it will not only give an immediate blow to public credit, but will mount the price of insurance almost to a prohibition on importation and exportation. A circumstance not to be thought of but with horror by a commercial nation. Extract of a letter from Captain James Devereux, of the Drawblood privateer of 12 guns, from Milford, to his owners, dated Cork, March 12.

"I am to inform you, that at eight this morning, I arrived in the cove of Cork, in a most shattered condition, having on the 6th instant, in a thick fog, Cape Clear bearing N. N. E. distant about 14 leagues, fallen in with the Vrow Petronella, Berand Jan on Klyne, commander, a Dutch letter of marque, carrying 18 nine pounders, and 100 men, which ship we engaged near three hours, when she struck to us. She proves to be a very valuable prize, about 700 tons, laden with naval stores, bound to Cadiz. In the action we had our foremast shot away by the board, our mainmast very much wounded, and received several shot between wind and water; we had five men killed at helm, and lost on the whole 11 killed, and 16 wounded. The Dutchman had 28 killed, and 30 wounded, among the former are the Captain, and two gentlemen who were passengers."

It is said the whole of the Spanish fleet, consisting of 33 sail of the line, besides frigates, names as below, have actually sailed from Cadiz, and have been seen steering towards the very tract in which our Jamaica and other homeward bound fleets must necessarily come in the course of their passage.

The Trinidade, Don	El Pasquilla	70
Cordova, Commander in Chief,	El St. Joakim	70
120	El St. Vincent	70
The Conceptione	El Orienti	70
90	El Deligent	70
The Couleur	El Africa	70
80	El Terrible	70
El St. Gabriel	El Formande	70
80	Brihome	70
El Rayo. Don Selaydon, third in command,	The Angelo Gard	70
80	El Prender	70
El Teunante, Don Gaston, second in command,	Magnanime	70
80	El Minno	64
El Galicia	El Espana	64
70	El St. Leandre	64
El Septemtrione	Leandre	64
70	Fadora	64
El Venugar	Aminea	64
70	Siteresono	64
El Raphael		
70		
El Atlas		
70		
El Firmi		
70		
El Seriose		
70		
El St. Eugenio		
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May 31. Advices from the Hague say, that a fleet will soon sail from the Texel of seven sail of the line, with 2000 land forces, who are certainly designed for the West-Indies, where the arms of France are to co-operate with them to regain St. Eustatia, and the settlements taken by the English.

The Soleil transport, of 250 tons, with a company of grenadiers on board, from Cherburgh to Brest, was lost on the 14th instant upon the rocks, three leagues S. E. of Brest, and only 30 privates and 1 Lieutenant saved. The company consisted of 100 men complete. The mate and three of the crew were also lost.

The Superintendent of Naval matters at Havre de Grace has received preremptory orders from Paris, to prepare transports sufficient for the reception of 4000 men, with full four months provisions for the same, and to give notice to the war-office when they are ready.

The French are collecting a great force at Mauritius; besides two fleets, one of eight, and the other of six sail of the line known to be there, or in India. Information is said to be received of four sail of the line more, and seven frigates, which have run thither in single ships of war; each as the convoy of several transports full of troops, &c.

## L I S B O N, April 14.

They write from Coimbra, that a few days ago they had a furious tempest, with hail of a prodigious size, which fell with such violence, that though it lasted but six minutes it has destroyed all the vines, and spoiled all the produce of the country, and caused many other damages.

Florence, April 13. We have accounts that the earthquake which was felt here on the 4th, has done great damage in Romania, several high roads are broke up, houses and churches beat down, and near the rock of St. Cassian, a mountain split in two with a violent noise. We do not hear but of two lives lost; the persons were brothers, and both lying in one bed.

Civita Vecchia, April 20. The Viper, an English privateer of 18 six pounders, stopped here the 18th to take in provisions, and sailed again yesterday evening. A Dutch prize she had taken off Malta, named the Neptune, and which was sent in here to be sold after being condemned by the Admiralty Court at London, has given rise to a contest on the part of a merchant of Lisbon, the proprietor of the cargo. The Count de Meneses, his faithful Majesty's Minister at Rome, has made some representations on this head to Cardinal Pallavicini, Secretary of state, to prevent the disposal of the cargo by the taker, till orders should arrive from the Court of Portugal. By a convention between the two Courts it is stated, it is said, that in case England should declare war against any neutral power, she shall grant a sufficient time to advertise the neutral ships of such war, in order to shelter, by such declaration, the properties of the subjects of the Court of Portugal, without which the prizes should not be deemed lawful, and England not having given proper time to the Dutch, we ardently wish to know how this contest will be decided.

## B O S T O N, August 9.

Since our last a vessel bound from Pool, in England, to Newfoundland, captured by a Salem privateer, arrived in port; she failed from thence some time in June, and by a gentleman who was a passenger when captured, we learn, that the ambassadors from the several belligerent powers, and of the armed neutrality, had met in Vienna in May, but that the ambassador from the British court, on their first meeting, declared that he had no authority from his court to accede to an ambassador from the United States in North-America having a seat among them, in consequence of which they immediately broke up; That on the dissolution of the Congress, the Russian fleet immediately put to sea, and were to proceed to the Texel, with the most positive orders from the Empress of Russia to protect the Dutch commerce at all events: That the several powers which compose the neutrality had insisted that the court of Portugal should accede to the confederation, or take a decisive part, and as they had 15 sail of line of battle ships ready for the sea, 'twas said they would immediately comply with the former requisition: That the French King had made a demand on the British of all the property taken at Statia, and if it was not complied with, that he should immediately confiscate as much property in the islands of Dominica and Grenada, as would compensate for the loss at the island: That the whole Statia fleet bound to Europe, captured by the French, had safe arrived, except two ships, and that the English merchants had determined to enter a regular prosecution against Admiral Rodney, for the unjustifiable seizure of their property at that place. In consequence of the above important occurrences taking place, 'twas generally thought in England a peace must unavoidably soon take place.

We learn that the Squadron under the command of Admiral M. de la Motte Piquet, has taken a fleet of 18 British ships from Lisbon, bound to Newfoundland, their convoy only escaped.

Aug. 16. Yesterday arrived here, in fifty days from Brest, his Most Christian Majesty's frigate Magicienne, of 36 guns, together with a transport, having on board cloaths and warlike stores of all kinds, on account of the United States. A number of French gentlemen of the army and navy, came passengers in the frigate, among whom is Colonel Armand, a gentleman who has highly distinguished himself in the cause of the United States; he has brought over with him, arms, cloathing, &c. complete for his legion, now at head quarters.

By these vessels we have a confirmation of the taking of the homeward bound Statia fleet of 25 sail, the two British ships, their convoy, escaped, the value of those taken, is estimated at fifteen millions of French livres: That the French grand fleet failed from Brest the 23d of June, in order to join the Spanish fleet at Cadiz, which, when effected, will amount to forty ships of the line, besides frigates, &c. That the Dutch fleet of about twenty sail of the line were still lying at the Texel: That the British grand fleet of twenty-three or twenty-four sail of the line, were in port, and it is said will not attempt to put to sea: That M. de Suffrin, commanding five French ships of the line, on his passage to the East-Indies, met with Commodore Johnstone who also had under command, five British ships of the line, and a number of transports, bound, it is said, on an expedition against the Dutch settlements at the Cape of Good Hope, when the squadrons of both nations had an engagement, and after a severe conflict the British gave way, and were

forced to seek protection under the guns of a fort on the coast of Portugal: The French took two British transports of the above fleet: That the Dutch at the Cape of Good-Hope were strongly fortifying that place, and that a British ship richly laden, inadvertently going into that port, was taken by the Dutch.

## P R O V I D E N C E, Aug. 11.

On Thursday returned into port, having sprung her mast, the privateer sloop Success, John B. Hopkins, Esq. Commander, and brought in the brig Rose, from New-York, bound to Charlestown, with dry goods on board to the amount of about four hundred pounds sterling.

The sloop Crawford, of this port, late commanded by Capt. Hill, is arrived at Beverly.—On her passage to Europe, with a cargo of tobacco, she was captured by a British cruiser, and retaken by the privateer Scourge, of Salem.

A gentleman from Salem informs, that a snow from Madeira, bound to Quebec, with 500 pipes of wine on board, arrived at Salem on Wednesday last.—She was captured by the privateer Tyger, of that place.

On Wednesday a flag of truce returned to New-London from New-York, and brought about 60 Americans that had been prisoners there. Among them are Capt. Jacobs, his officers, and some of the men, late belonging to the privateer sloop Kingbird.

A privateer brig from New-York, mounting 14 guns, and having 18 others in her hold, is taken by the privateer brig Marquis la Rayette, and carried into New-London.

A brig from Cork, bound to New-York, laden with beef, butter, &c. is taken by the privateer sloop Jay, of New-London, and carried into that port.

## P O U G H K E E P S I E, August 20.

The following account from Schoharie, and accounts of the captivity and release of Mr. Bleecker, and the robbery of General Schuyler's house, mentioned in our last, came too late for our paper of last week.

About the 25th ult. between 20 and 30 Indians and Tories made their appearance at Schoharie, and went to a house where they found a woman with two sons, nearly grown up, and some other children.—One of the sons they barbarously murdered in the presence of the mother, tho' no resistance had been made; the other, after setting fire to the house, which the woman, however, found means to extinguish, they carried off. They killed two other unarmed men, who fell in their way, burnt one house and two barns, and were proceeding to the house of Major Becker; but being discovered before they got quite to the house, the Major, with two other men, took their arms, and in a short time beat them off, leaving one of their wounded in the field; and from the discovery of blood in several places, 'tis probable that was not all the loss. The gallant behaviour of Major Becker and the two men, not only does them great honour, but in all probability, prevented much greater mischief being done in the neighbourhood.

We have the pleasure of informing the publick, that John Bleecker, Esq; who some days since, was kidnapped at his place at Tomheneck, a few miles above Albany, is re-taken and safely returned to Albany.—He was taken by a party under the command of one Howard, who had his orders in writing, from Colonel St. Leger, commanding at St. John's.—Howard and his party were secured by some people on the Grants, who went in pursuit of them, and it is expected they will meet the fate, which a practice so contrary to the law of nations, merits.

It appears that the British are not ashamed to employ their adherents, thus to steal away inhabitants out of the country; and even condescend to offer rewards for the encouragement of this low unmanly business.

On the evening of the 7th inst. a certain Captain Meyer, formerly of Albany county, now of Rogers's rangers, at the head of 18 or 20 men, came to the house of General Schuyler, at Albany, and on being refused admittance at the back gate, they forced it, entered the kitchen, and had proceeded to the back hall, before they were met by four white men and two blacks, who on discovering them, had been for their arms—the brave opposition made by these men and blacks, afforded General Schuyler time to gain his bed-room, where his arms were deposited—by this time the enemy had taken two of the men, wounded a third, and obliged the fourth, with the negroes, to seek shelter in the cellar.—Some of the party then attempted to surround the house, whilst others entered it.—Those in the quarter exposed to General Schuyler's fire, retired on the first discharge—tho' he repeated the fire frequently, to alarm the town. In the mean time Meyers, with some of the party, had got up stairs, in the passage leading to the bed-room, but, on their hearing the General call to the citizens, to hasten up and surround the house, retired with precipitation.—Tho' the citizens made all possible dispatch, and their approach was probably the means of the villains going off, yet they came too late—the party had carried off the two prisoners, and some of the General's plate.—General Clinton immediately on the alarm, had ordered out a party of the regular troops, but as they were more remote than the citizens, they consequently could not ar-

rive in season.—Parties were immediately sent out, taking different routs, in pursuit of them, but by the last accounts, had not fallen in with them.

Last week we had repeated advices of mischief done by the enemy, at Warrington and places adjacent, about 30 miles back of Kingston, southerly, on the road from thence to Philadelphia. We have received no authenticated account of the matter, but the common report is, that the enemy consisted of about 200 Indians, or more savage inhabitants painted and dressed like them; and about 80 or 90 Tories, that they had burnt or destroyed about 14 houses, with all the hay, grain and other property, they could find, and had carried off several of the inhabitants, among whom were two members of our late Assembly: That there were 70 or 80 of our soldiers quartered in the neighbourhood at different houses, most of which the enemy attacked, but were beat off, and prevented from burning or doing any material damage. Hence it appears, that these cowardly villains, only mean to attack the defenceless, and that, like the Devil, by whose spirit they are actuated, if they are resisted they will flee from us. The militia, to the number of 500, under Col. Pawling, we hear, were in pursuit of them.

#### ANNAPOLIS, August 16.

The apprehensions of an invasion are for the present dissipated; the fleet supposed to be defined for Baltimore or this city, has entered York-river; the troops have landed at Gloucester and York, and are fortifying; it would, however, be the extreme of folly to allow this change of appearances to relax our exertions as their situation is still such, as to enable them to invade us at their pleasure; if we act like a wise people, and are in earnest to protect our property, and all we hold dear, we shall redouble our diligence, and exert every effort to render ourselves impregnable. Let the militia be unwearied in becoming acquainted with their arms; let all ranks of people unite in establishing the credit of our new emissions; which will open such a fund for raising and equipping men, that we shall be able to render the southern army formidable; let patriotism gain the ascendant over private interest, and the sordid passions, and our safety is ensured.

The spirit which pervaded the militia on the prospect of an invasion, and the alacrity with which they stepped forth, whilst it redounds to their eternal honour, must inspire us with a pleasing confidence in our strength, and blast the hopes of our enemy. It is a fact, which ought to be universally known, that 2300 militia, well armed, and not despicable in their discipline, were assembled on one day's notice from Baltimore-town and its vicinity. An equal ardour reigned in every other part of the state, and militia were crowding in from every quarter, so that in the course of a few days an army would have been collected, not only sufficient to have counteracted any predatory schemes of the enemy, but have made them repent an invasion in force.

The following are extracts of letters from a gentleman with the Marquis la Fayette, dated New-Castle, August 6, 1781.

"Maryland is relieved by the enemy's establishing themselves in York-river: but as this is a movement, not of choice, there is no saying how long you will be safe. The measure, there is good reason to believe, is in consequence of advice of a superior naval power expected on this coast. So you see upon what you have to depend.

"Under these circumstances your military preparations are as necessary as ever. You will either want them for your own defence, or to assist us. Believe one who is not apt to judge rashly, who has long since told you of what has been to near taking place, that relaxation may involve evils to the state, of the most permanent nature. There was a time when we could blunder with impunity; but a blunder now may prove fatal. I need not be more explicit to you. You must be aware of the very critical situation of affairs both in America and Europe."

"By authentic accounts from Europe, England has refused the mediation of Russia for a separate peace between her and Holland. A restoration of what she had taken from the Dutch was the basis, which she did not chuse to comply with. Her idea was, to take the Dutch islands, which were easy conquests, in the expectation that the French, in order to recover them for the Dutch, would give up, on a peace, an equal number of those English ones they have taken, or might take. The subject, however, may be again considered at the general Congress for a peace, which may meet about February next."

August 23. We can assure the publick from the best authority, that the troops under the command of Generals Sumpter and Marian and Lieutenant-Colonel Lee, mentioned in our last as detached against Monk's Corner and Dorchester, have been in a great measure successful. They obliged the enemy to abandon their works at Bigger's church, and captured all their baggage; took upwards of 140 prisoners, killed an equal number, with the inconsiderable loss of 20 killed and 40 wounded. At Bigger's church several waggons and 200 horses fell into our hands, one of the waggons loaded with ammunition. Four vessels filled with stores were taken and destroyed; amongst the stores there were 70 pipes of wine. Lee's legion behaved on this occasion with their usual

gallantry, and the state horse and militia of South-Carolina, acted with an address and bravery that would have done honour to the veterans of any country, although engaged with the enemy for near two hours, between the distance of 40 and 80 yards, they stood firm and unmoved. This manoeuvre has been attended with some of the desired consequences; it has obliged Rawdon to move down the country with the greater part of his force; the remainder were still at Orangeburg. These advices are as late as July 24.

#### PHILADELPHIA, August 16.

On Friday the 10th inst. a party of refugees, consisting of 16 men, headed by one—Nash, landed from two whale-boats, in Dover Hundred, Kent county, in the Delaware state, at seven o'clock in the morning, and marched three miles through the woods, to the seat of John Dickinson, Esq. which they plundered of all the plate, wearing apparel, house linen, bedclothes, liquors, and salted meat, a great quantity of linen and cloth not made up, some books and papers, with many other valuable articles, and took off a black servant man. The damage is computed at two thousand pounds in specie. They did not take any thing from any of the neighbours, though they were at some of their houses. The militia on notice of the enemy's landing, mustered to the number of 50 or 60 men, and went in pursuit of them; but on coming to the Bay side, found them embarked with all their plunder. Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson were in this city at the time.

August 22. Yesterday arrived here, sent in by the ship Royal Louis, Captain Decature of this port, one of his Tyrannic Majesty's armed brigs called the Active, commanded by George Augustus Delano;—This brig about the first of July was sent express from New-York to the West-Indies by the Admiral for more naval assistance; the brig after touching at Barbadoes, found the British fleet at Antigua under the command of Admiral Hood, Rodney having sailed for England, with his plunder, in the Gibraltar, accompanied by the Panther and Triumph. Letters by the active say, that a fleet of 12 or 13 sail of British ships of the line were to sail to the relief of New-York on or about the 7th instant, and may be hourly looked for on this coast.

The brig Active, on the 7th of July, took up at sea in a boat, Captain Fisher and seven hands, late of the brig James of this port, who on her passage to Havannah, the 3d of July, overfet in a squall, when 8 or 9 of her people were drowned, the rest got into the boat and were luckily taken up as mentioned above.

The following account is handed us by a gentleman just arrived from Cape Francois, and may be depended on as authentic.

The 8th of May, 1781, entered into Brest, 24 merchant ships, taken by Monf. la Motte Piquet, part of an English fleet from St. Eustatia, bound for England, under convoy of two ships of the line and two frigates. Six merchant ships were afterwards taken by two French privateers, the others made their escape, with the men of war and frigates.

	French livres, each	of 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. sterling.
2485 hogheads of white sugars,	valued at	5,935,500
2275 ditto of tobacco,	- - - - -	1,592,500
1100 elephants teeth,	- - - - -	165,000
9330 tierces of coffee,	- - - - -	3,732,000
1389 hides,	- - - - -	27,780
300 bales of cotton,	- - - - -	188,000
293 hogheads of ginger,	- - - - -	78,320
The 24 ships estimated at 60,000 livres each,	- - - - -	1,440,000
8 tierces of indigo,	- - - - -	18,000
		13,165,100
Estimating the six ships taken by the privateers which are not included above,		3,291,275

The last letters which have been received from Europe, at St. Croix, mention, that the King of Denmark does not appear to be favourably inclined towards Great-Britain, as all the English vessels have been stopped at the passage of the Sound, and the Court declares, that before they come to an explanation, all the vessels that were taken going from Gaudaloupe shall be returned to their owners. We can scarcely believe that England will refuse this satisfaction to a power who can shut them out of the Baltic, and who has so respectable a navy on foot; but if she restores them, she will shew her weakness, she will give thereby her consent to the freedom of trade, and her enemies will flow in abundance while she will want every thing.

Extract of a letter from Martinico, dated July 1, 1781. "Three vessels arrived here successively, in the course of last week from Marfeilles, but last from Malaga, whose report to the government contain the following circumstances.

"M. de la Motte Piquet, being on a cruise off the Lizard, fortunately intercepted a fleet of 35 merchantmen, which sailed from St. Eustatia in March last, under convoy of the Vengeance, the Mars, and a frigate: these last were all that escaped, the rest have been conducted safely into Brest.

"The active and implacable enemy of the British in the East-Indies, Hyder Ally Kan, having taken by storm, after three unsuccessful attempts, a gar-

rison called Arcot, in the vicinity of Pondicherry, put every man to the sword, except such as escaped by flight, and about 50 British officers, whom the French concealed. On this occasion between 3 and 4000 Moors and 1500 Europeans were massacred, including among the latter upwards 50 officers. Fallycherry being also taken by assault the garrison underwent the same fate. Porto Novo and Pondicherry were also taken; and these accounts add, that 60 thousand Moors were marching to attack Bengall, which had thrown the English there into the greatest confusion.

"Our enemies have received the mortifying confirmation of these circumstances by a packet arrived at Antigua; adding, that Hyder Ally Kan was besieging Veiour, the strongest settlement of the British in the interior parts of Indostan, when those expresses left the coast of Coromandil, and that it would be impossible for that garrison to hold out more than six weeks."

#### TRENTON, AUGUST 29.

We hear that last Thursday night a party in six whale-boats, consisting of 70 men, under the command of Lieut. Ather Fitz-Randolph, of the state regiment, stationed at Woodbridge, landed on Staten-Island, and proceeded as far as Fort Richmond, in which were stationed upwards of 200 Tories and refugees. A severe firing commenced about day-break, and continued until 11 o'clock. All that ventured out of the fort were either killed or taken, and Lieutenant Fitz-Randolph brought off several prisoners and nine British hories, without any loss except having 3 men slightly wounded, and Captain Story, who commanded one of the whale-boats, was wounded in three different places, but none of them mortal.

We hear the Allied Army have crossed the North-River, and that Head-Quarters are now at Chatham.

OBSERVE, That agreeably to the act of the Legislature of the 9th June, 1780, the sum of Forty-eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Pounds, part of the paper currency of this state, is to be sunk in the course of a few months. It is hoped it will be done at the ensuing sitting of the Assembly, who meet the 19th of next month. Those who have state money in their hands, or have an opportunity of obtaining it, will take notice of this hint, and consider the effect it will have upon the value of it; and that there is a further tax of Fifty Thousand Pounds payable on or before the first day of December next.

THE members of the New-Jersey society for promoting agriculture, commerce and arts, are requested to take notice, that their next meeting was appointed to be held at Trenton, on Friday the seventh day of September next. By order, SAMUEL WITHAM STOCKTON, Sec'y.

Trenton, August 23d, 1781.

#### STOLEN,

OUT of the pasture of the subscriber in Amwell township, Hunterdon county, and state of New-Jersey, near Flemington, on the 21st of this instant, a bright BAY HORSE, five years old last grass, with a star in his forehead, and a white ring on the top of his head, galled with the halter when he was a colt, which does plainly appear, a scar on his nose, a round scar or dint between his thighs, and a very small snip on his nose, a natural trotter, smooth shod all round, straight limbed, round bodied, and bows his hams out when he trots, is half-blooded, near 14 hands and an half high.—Whoever secures the said horse so that the owner may have him again, and the thief brought to justice, shall receive fifteen hard Dollars, and all reasonable charges, or Twelve Dollars for the horse only, paid by

JOSEPH BISHOP.

N. B. The person supposed to have stolen the said horse is about five feet eight or ten inches high, dark complexion, straight black hair, wore a check frock and striped trowsers and jacket, half worn boots, and one spur; had a pair of saddle bags of harness leather, not blacked, stuffed very full, and a large short bundle tied behind, wore a hat half cocked, and a black handkerchief or cape to his frock, and appeared to be a man given to liquor. Perhaps he may alter his dress. r w t. f.

BROKE in upon the plantation of the subscriber, living in the township of Trenton, about the 11th of this instant, two cattle, the one a spotted ox, with a bell on, and a crop off each ear; the other a red dry cow, with a crop off the off ear, and a latch mark on the near ear. The owner is desired to come and pay the expence of keeping, and take them away. August 28, 1781. BENJAMIN CLARK. r w t. f.

#### TO BE RENTED,

At publick vendue for one year or longer, at Spottwood, in Middlesex county, on Saturday the 8th of September next;

A Very good grist-mill, with two pair of stones, in good order, the bolting works all go by water; also a good dwelling-house, and a very good saw-mill in good order, with about 200 acres of land. The renter may have more or less, as best suits. The vendue to begin at 12 o'clock, when attendance will be given, and the conditions made known by JOHN COVENHOVEN.

N. B. Also to be sold at the same place, six pair of very good forge bellows, at private sale. Spottwood, August 22, 1781.

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To all whom it may concern :  
**NOTICE** is hereby given, that pursuant to a resolve of the Honourable the Legislature of the State of New-Jersey, I intend to present a bill to the next sitting of the Legislature of said state, for the purpose of investing a title in fee, of the equal one half of the plantation now in my possession, situate in Freehold, in the county of Monmouth, agreeably to contract made with my brother John Whitlock, deceased.  
**JAMES WHITLOCK.**  
 Monmouth county, Aug. 20, 1781. 3w\*

**CAME** to the plantation of Isaac Hull, in Wind-for township, Middlesex county, some time in June last, a bright sorrel horse, with a blaze in his face, about 14 hands and half high, 4 years old past, and a natural pacer. The owner coming, proving his property, paying charges, may take him away.

*Elizabeth-Town Stage Waggon.*

**THE** Subscribers inform the publick, that they have a convenient Stage Waggon, with four good horses, suitable for carrying passengers and their baggage.—Will set out from the Bunch of Grapes, in Third-street, between Market and Arch-streets, Philadelphia, every Monday and Thursday mornings, precisely at seven o'clock, dine at Bristol, cross the New-Ferry just above Trenton Falls, from thence to Jacob Bergen's at Princeton, there to meet Ichabod Grummond and Drake's stage from Elizabeth-Town every Monday and Thursday nights; the next mornings Tuesday and Friday, will set out from thence at sunrise, breakfast at Trenton, start from thence precisely at ten o'clock, dine at Bristol at the house of John Wilson, from thence to Philadelphia, so as to complete the journey in less than two days.

The price for each passenger, from Philadelphia to Elizabeth-Town, to be Four hard Dollars; and the like sum for 150 weight of baggage; and every letter One-eighth of a hard Dollar, to be paid by the person sending the said letter.

No run goods to be admitted into this stage on any account.

**GERSHOM JOHNSTON, and  
 NATH. TWINING.**

August 7, 1781.

**WHEREAS** the Honourable the Assembly of this state did resolve at their last sitting, that leave be given to bring in a bill at the next meeting, for erecting a new county by taking off a part of the counties of Hunterdon and Suffex, agreeably to the prayer of a very great number of the inhabitants of said counties, provided the same be published for some time previous to said meeting in the New-Jersey Gazette: This publick notice is therefore given, that the said petitioners intend to bring in a bill at the next sitting of Assembly for the purpose aforesaid.

*House of Assembly, June 7th, 1781.*

**A PETITION** from Robert Morris, Esq. was presented and read, setting forth, that Robert Hunter Morris, had, by his last will and testament, devised his real estate to David Ogden and Richard Morris, Esquires, their heirs and assigns forever, in trust, amongst other uses, for that of the payment of his debts; and appointed the said persons his executors.—That the trust vested in the said Trustees has not been completely executed, and cannot now be without the interposition of the Legislature, by reason that the said David Ogden has joined the enemy; and praying that he may have leave to present a bill at the next sitting of the Legislature to vest the legal title of the said real estate, yet unfold, in the remaining trustee, and to empower him to sell and convey the same, or any part thereof, as fully and amply as if the said David Ogden had joined in the conveyance, &c.

Ordered, That the said petitioner have leave to present a bill accordingly, on advertising his intention and the purport of his petition for four weeks in the New-Jersey Gazette previously thereto.

Extract from the minutes.

M. Ewing, jun. Clerk.

Notice is hereby given, that the subscriber intends to present a bill at the next sitting of the Legislature, for the purposes mentioned in the foregoing extract from the minutes of the House of Assembly.

**ROBERT MORRIS.**

Morristown, August 2, 1781.

**Eight hard Dollars Reward,**

**STOLEN** out of the pasture of Daniel Smith, in the township of Nottingham, on the night of the 17th of August, a large brown horse, 7 years old this grass, 15 hands high, trots and canters; he is branded on the near shoulder with W. Any person taking up the horse and thief, so that the thief may be brought to justice, and deliver the horse to the owner, at the four mile tavern, above Trenton, on the river road, shall have the above reward, or Four Dollars for the horse only, with reasonable charges, paid by me

3w||

**WILLIAM BARBER.**

**THE** Printer of the New-Jersey Gazette has long experienced the perplexities and losses attending outstanding accounts, and the want of punctual payments. Although the price is now as low as the expences of paper, wages, &c. will admit, yet for the sake of avoiding these inconveniences, he would be willing to make an extraordinary abatement, were the price of a year paid by advance within a reasonable time. He therefore proposes to set the paper for a year at **TEN SHILLINGS**; gold or silver, provided the same be advanced at any time within three months from the 25th of last month, when the year commenced, and the whole of a packet be on that footing. He will also in this case take produce at the current market rates. If by any means whatever the paper should be discontinued, the money or produce will be returned in due proportion. Those subscribers for the present year, who do not prefer these terms will be considered under those mentioned in this Gazette the 25th ult. No. 187.

The Printer earnestly requests the packet-masters and others who are in arrear, to pay off their respective balances immediately.

**ISAAC COLLINS.**

Trenton, August 8, 1781.

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,

**A Proclamation.**

**WHEREAS** it has been represented to me that the persons herein after mentioned have been guilty of atrocious offences, and have committed divers robberies, thefts and other felonies in this state:—I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of the Honourable Privy Council of this state, to issue this proclamation, hereby promising the rewards herein mentioned to any person or persons who shall apprehend and secure in any gaol of this state, any or either of the following persons or offenders, to wit, Caleb Sweesy, James O'Harra, John Moody and Gysbert Gyberlon, the sum of **TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS** of the bills of credit issued on the faith of this state.

Given under my hand and seal at arms, at Trenton, the third day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one, and in the fifth year of the independence of America.

**WIL. LIVINGSTON.**

By His Excellency's Command,  
**BOWES REED, Sec'y.**

**THE** subscribers having furnished themselves with good boats at the new ferry a little above the Falls, and almost opposite to Trenton, and the distance being nearly the same from Bristol to Trenton to go by this or Colvin's; all persons who will please to favour them with their custom, may depend on an easy and safe passage, at the following rates, which are as low as they were twenty years ago, viz.

Waggon and four horses	4/6d.
Ditto with two ditto	3/6d.
Horse and chair	1/6d.
Man and horse	6d.
A footman	3d.

And all other ferriages in like proportion.

Travellers who come from Bristol the new road are requested to turn off to the left at the 29 mile stone, which is about three quarters of a mile from the ferry—and those from the eastward are to turn to the right at the market-house in Trenton, which is about one quarter of a mile from the ferry, where constant attendance is given by the publick's humble servants,

**JOHN BURROWS,  
 GEORGE BEATY.**

N. B. Travellers may be supplied with good hay and pasture for their horses, by said Beaty.

**THE** owner of the ferry known by the name of the Trenton Old Ferry, on the post road leading to Philadelphia, and where the publick all crosses, has provided the said ferry with the best boats that ever have been constructed for the safety of transporting passengers, horses and carriages, in time of freshes, wind or ice, and a number of careful hands that have nothing else to do but work the boats, and are always ready on the spot. The ferriages are as follow, viz.

Waggon and four horses	5s.
Waggon and two horses	3/9d.
A chair	1/6d.
Man and horse	6d.
A foot person	3d.

And all other ferriages in Proportion. rw\*

**TO BE SOLD,**  
 By **WILLIAM RICHARDS,**  
 At his STORE at Trenton Landing, an assortment of medicines, amongst which are the following articles:

**ANTIMONY**, aloes, anniseed, balsam capivi, calomel, camphire, cream of tartar, cochineal, Carolina pink-root, flour of brimstone, fly-stone, glauber and epom salts, isinglass, jalap, ipecacuanha, magnesia, liquorish ball, opium, olive oil, oil of spike, quicksilver ointment, spirits of turpentine, &c.—With a complete assortment of patent medicines.

**ALSO** to be sold at the same store, an assortment of West-Indi. goods, hard ware, groceries, &c. as low as can be purchased in Philadelphia, viz. rum, sugar, tea, coffee, chocolate, molasses, salts of different sorts, cotton, indigo, spices of every kind, mustard, oatmeal, barley, rice, sago, allum, copperas, Castile and English hard soap, corks, stone, earthen and wooden ware, black bottles, tar, tobacco, snuff, whiting, chalk, fishing lines, hooks and swivels of different sizes, chalk lines, stone lime by the bushel or larger quantity, oakum, English and Dutch grass scythes, cradling ditto, iron tea-kettles, waggon boxes, nails, whisky, geneva in cases, logwood, redwood, verdigrise, grindstones, mops, Indian corn by the bushel, old canvas for saddlers, pickled sturgeon, sturgeon, lamp and linseed oil, lampblack, &c. Also, some very fine hair powder, &c. &c.

Said **RICHARDS** buys mustard seed, fire-wood, and several sorts of country produce—He has a shallop, with proper stores, and a careful person to deliver and receive goods, that is always on the spot.  
 June 13, 1781.

This is to give publick Notice,

**THAT** Joseph Shakelton was committed to gaol in Trenton, upon suspicion of robbery, and has since broke gaol, and left a very small grey Maryland pony. Any person owning said pony, is desired to come and prove property in three weeks, or he will be sold to pay charges.

**BENJAMIN YARD.**

Trenton, August 21, 1781.

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.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**

TO THE

**National Bank,**

FOR THE

**United States of America,**

Are received by

**PHILEMON DICKINSON and  
 LAMBERT CADWALADER.**

Trenton, June 19, 1781.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**

TO THE

**National Bank,**

FOR THE

**United States of America,**

Are received by

**JOHN IMLAY.**

Allentown, July 12, 1781.

**Four Spanish milled Dollars Reward.**

**STRAYED** or stolen about the 8th of June last, from the subscriber in Spotwood, near South-Amboy, a BAY MARE, about fourteen hands and one inch high, her near eye wall, a natural pacer, six years old, and was new shod before. Whoever takes up the said mare and brings her to the subscriber, shall receive the above reward.

3w

**WILLIAM SHERRER.**

**TRENTON:** Printed by **ISAAC COLLINS.** Advertisements of a moderate Length are inserted for *Five Shillings* each the first Week, and *One Shilling and Three-pence* for every Continuance, and long Ones in Proportion; and by whom Essays, and Articles of Intelligence are thankfully received.