

NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1778.

For the NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

From the original letters of Monsieur De LISLE.

Trenton, New-Jersey, December 25, 1777.

MY DEAR COUNT,

I HAVE just returned from spending a few days with the army, under the command of General Washington, at a place called the Valley Forge, about twenty miles from Philadelphia. I found them employed in building little huts for their winter quarters. It was natural to expect that they wished for more comfortable accommodations, after the hardships of a most severe campaign; but I could discover nothing like a sigh of discontent at their situation, among either officers or soldiers. On the contrary, my ears were agreeably struck every evening, in riding through the camp, with a variety of military and patriotic songs; and every countenance I saw, wore the appearance of cheerfulness or satisfaction. Their illustrious General shared with them in all the difficulties of their new species of encampment. His manner of life was truly exemplary to his whole army. By his temperance and sobriety the midnight revel was banished from his camp. He entertains his officers and strangers with a delicate politeness that is peculiar to himself, but in a manner so free from ostentation and luxury, that a person fancies himself, when at his table, feasting with one of the celebrated Generals of the republic of Rome, in the simple ages of the commonwealth. I should not add to this account of the General, that he seldom dines upon more than one dish and drinks no wine at his table, but that I find his friends and the army glory in having it known. I must inform you that he draws no pay for his services, and as the Congress contracted to defray the expences of his table, he has been led by that circumstance as well as by a love of republican simplicity, to adopt this temperate and frugal mode of living. I found, upon enquiry, that he was as usual indefatigable in business. Day-light seldom found him in bed. Instead of dwelling upon past misfortunes, he was busy in forming plans for collecting the strength of the United States, in order to open the next campaign as early as possible by a vigorous attack upon the enemy.

The people of this country are a good deal divided in their opinions as to the methods of carrying on the war by troops enlisted during the war, or by militia. The arguments in favour of a standing army apply much less in this country than among the belligerent states of Europe. Where luxury and a variety of mechanical employments have unfitted a majority of the inhabitants for the toils and dangers of a military life, and where foreign conquests and expeditions form a part of the great system of war. But the case is widely different from this in America; inasmuch that I am disposed to agree with those citizens who rely chiefly upon the militia or yeomanry of the country, for the establishment of the Independence of these States.

You must know that nine-tenths of the freemen of America are farmers, who are either married men, or connected in such a manner with families, that they will not forego the sweets of domestic life for three, four, or seven years service. The very circumstances which ensure to us their attachment to their country, viz. their property and their connections militate against their becoming soldiers for life. The armies of Europe are composed chiefly of single men, and this is the reason why they are now employed so successfully in supporting the thrones of tyrants in your quarter of the world. Had the Congress succeeded last year in their scheme of raising 30,000 men to serve during the war, I should have taken leave of the liberties of this country; for could that number of men have been found in America without property, and wholly detached from family connections, I should thought America too far gone in the corrupted manners of Europe, to have established her freedom and independence. The present continental army has exhausted America of that class of men who compose the common soldiers in Europe. Some of them, I grant, are married men and possessed of considerable property; but these thrust themselves into the ranks in a fit of patriotic enthusiasm, when the salvation of America was thought to depend entirely upon her success in filling up her continental regiments. A resolution of the Congress I believe could draw an army of 10,000 men together from the single State of Connecticut to serve for six or nine months, but I question whether any force could bring a single battalion from that State to serve during the war.

It is always dangerous to a free state to introduce a distinction between citizens and soldiers. They

should always be united in the same persons. Now nothing can do this so effectually as to oblige them reciprocally to perform the duties of each other. Liberty must be perpetual in that country where men are equally capable of handling fire-arms and the plough. A freeman who has risked his life only once in defence of his liberty, will value it more than a man who has payed thousands to a mercenary army to defend it for him.

There are but two ways of expelling the British army from America. The one is by an army equal in numbers and discipline, and superior in the stratagems of war to their own. The other is by an army of militia, whose superiority in numbers and enthusiastic attachment to the cause of liberty, shall supply the want of stratagems and of perfect discipline.

Experience hath taught the Americans that the first cannot be obtained. The exigencies of the war will not give them leisure to introduce a system of European discipline into their armies. Besides, men cannot be had in sufficient numbers to become subjects of that kind of discipline. The Americans love their liberty and their families too much to part with them for more than a year. To extirpate these principles and affections from their minds, would be to render them fit subjects and instruments for slavery. A choice therefore is no longer left to the United States of a regular army to serve during the war. They must depend finally upon the militia or yeomanry of the country. The exploits that have already been performed by them, are sufficient to give a full confidence in them. It is only sufficient to name Lexington—Bunker's Hill—Fort Schuyler—Bennington—Saratoga—and New-Jersey—to remind you that most of the laurels that have been earned since the commencement of the war, have been gathered by militia.

The broken nature of the country renders the war in America necessarily irregular. The British army discovered this long ago: and by laying aside their regularity, and adopting the loose mode of advancing and firing practised by the militia, have in several instances baffled detachments of the continental army.

I would not be understood by any thing I have written in this letter, to approve of the method practised by some of the States, of sending militia into the field for six weeks or two months. This time is too short to teach them to act in concert with each other. Instead of this practice, I wish no troops to be admitted into the field who are not willing to serve at least for six months. If each State, instead of being called upon to fill its continental regiments at an immense expence with recruits to serve during the war, was obliged to keep constantly in service a stipulated number of drafts from its militia, to serve for nine or twelve months, I am persuaded an army would be collected before the first day of next June, large enough to enable General Washington to offer terms of submission to all the troops of Britain in America.

What were the ancient armies of France and Germany?—What were the invincible bands whom the Edwards and Henrys of England, led on to glory and conquest? They were the farmers of the country. The sound of the trumpet collected them together, and the distance of time between their performing the labours of husbandry and shining in the honours of victory, was sometimes not more than two or three months.

The spirit of a commander has in some instances worked miracles with new troops. There was scarcely a regiment in the army that conquered Quebec that had been raised above four months. General Wolfe converted them at once into an army of heroes, and instructed them in all the arts of an American war. This spirit in a General is so essential to an army, that the oldest and most regular troops have never done any thing without it.

A General at the head of 40 or 50,000 freemen, with an army of only 15 or 20,000 mercenary banditti in his front, has nothing to do with the quaint maxims of military writers. Where is the use of the lever or the pulley to raise a weight, where the strength of a single hand is sufficient for that purpose? A council of war composed of cabinet Generals, I dare say, would have discovered twenty plausible objections to attacking the *floriss* of General Burgoyne's army entrenched upon the heights of Bennington, with a handful of raw militia. But General Stark admitted no deliberations among his principal officers between their duty and their fears. He did not wait 'till his little army was thinned by home-sickness, or disbanded by the expiration of their time of service. He availed himself of their genius and fire, and led them on to victory and glory. The King of Prussia could

not have planned an attack in his circumstances with more wisdom, nor have executed it with more bravery. Colonel Baum did every thing that could have been done by any man in his situation. But his fate must have been the same had he commanded a Macedonian phalanx.

I am disposed to think that an attack upon the British army, planned and executed with equal judgment and vigour, would succeed in nine cases out of ten, with the militia of any State in the union. It is the only way in which new troops can be made to fight or conquer. The exercise of *advancing* supports their animal spirits, and the constant change of ground prevents the least impression being made upon their minds by the sight of their wounded or dead companions. It should be remembered here, that in all these cases of attacking regular troops with militia that general orders—aid de camps—and the swords of officers brandishing in the air, will have no efficacy, unless the principal officers who command them lead them on to action.

Adieu, my dear Count, and be assured of the continuance of the regard of your most affectionate and devoted servant,

DE LISLE.

STATE OF NEW-JERSEY.

AN ACT for regulating and limiting the price of labour, and of sundry articles of produce, manufacture and trade; and to prevent forestalling, regrating, and engrossing.

WHEREAS divers persons, influenced by motives unfriendly to the interest and well-being of their country, and from avaricious principles and an unjust love of gain, do require, demand, and receive unreasonable prices for sundry necessities of life; and do also buy up and engross such of the said necessities as by the particular circumstances of the times are rendered scarce and difficult to be obtained, with a view farther to enhance their price; to the grievous oppression of the poor, distress of the army, and general detriment of the community: And whereas, pursuant to the recommendation of the Honourable the Congress of the United States, Commissioners duly appointed by the Legislatures of the several States of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, and Pennsylvania, did meet in convention at New-Haven in the month of January last, in order to form some general plan for the salutary purpose of regulating the price of labour, of manufactures, and the internal produce of the said States, and of sundry foreign articles; and the Commissioners of this State having reported the plan of regulations and the resolutions agreed upon in the said convention, and the same having been considered and in general approved, THEREFORE, as well to preserve an uniformity of prices in the several States from whence supplies are chiefly drawn for the army, as to prevent undue exactions and extortions in the internal commerce of this State,

BE IT ENACTED by the Council and General Assembly of this State, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That from and after the twentieth day of April next, the rates and prices of labour, and of the following articles of produce, manufacture and trade, shall not exceed the sums to them severally annexed, that is to say,

The rates and prices of farming and other common labour, carting and all kinds of land carriage, and the wages of mechanicks, tradesmen and handicraftsmen, shall not exceed double what they were in the same places through the various seasons of the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four.

The prices of hemp, flax, sheep's-wool, and all sorts of woollen and linen cloths, hosiery of all sorts, and felt hats, manufactured in America; bricks, lime, shingles, boards, scantling, and all other kinds of lumber; smiths coal, fire-wood, tanners bark, cyder, beer, apples, deer skins, venison, poultry of all kinds, fish of all kinds, roots, vegetables, eggs, milk, and all other kinds of American produce and manufacture, and every article of the like kind not particularly mentioned and regulated by this act, wire and wool cards excepted, shall not exceed double the sum such articles of the like quality were usually sold at in the several parts of this State, thro' the different seasons of the said year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four.

That the price of all sorts of European goods, wares and merchandize imported from foreign parts or brought into this State by capture or otherwise, shall not exceed the rate or price of one continental dollar for every shilling sterling prime cost of such

goods in Europe, exclusive of all other charges when sold by the importer or captor, excepting only the following articles, viz. all sorts of woollen and linen goods and checks suitable for the army, drugs and medicines, sail duck of all sorts, cordage, tin plates, copperas, files, alum, felt hats, nails, window-glasses, salt, steel, wire, wool and cotton cards, naval and military stores.

2. That all woollen cloth, blankets, linens, shoes, stockings, hats, and other articles of clothing, suitable for the use of the army, heretofore imported, which have been, or shall hereafter be seized and taken by lawful authority for the use of the army, shall be estimated at the above rates, with the addition of the stated allowance for land carriage, if any there be, to the place where they are to be sold.

3. That the prices of the following articles, at the first port of delivery or place of manufactory within this state from and after the aforesaid twentieth day of April next shall not exceed the rates affixed to them respectively, viz.

Good West-India rum by the hoghead, twenty-two shillings and six-pence per gallon.

Good merchantable country-made rum by the hoghead, fifteen shillings per gallon.

The best Muscovado sugar, twelve pounds ten shillings per hundred weight.

All other sugars in proportion according to quality.

Merchantable molasses by the hoghead, eleven shillings and three-pence per gallon.

Good coffee by the hundred weight or greater quantity, five shillings and eight-pence per pound.

Good merchantable Geneva, fifteen shillings per gallon.

Good merchantable brandy, fifteen shillings per gallon.

Good whisky by hoghead or barrel, eight shillings and nine-pence per gallon.

Any other distilled spirits not herein mentioned, fifteen shillings per gallon.

4. That from and after the said twentieth day of April next, no trader, retailer, or vender of goods, wares or merchandize, shall be allowed to ask, demand, or receive any higher or greater price than at the rate of twenty-five per cent. advance on the price or prices such goods, wares and merchandize shall and lawfully may be sold at by the importer, captor or manufacturer agreeably to the regulations in this act mentioned with the addition only of the charges of land carriage at the rate herein limited, from the first port or place of delivery to the place of sale.

5. That from and after the said twentieth day of April next, no inn-holder or tavern-keeper be allowed more than at the rate of fifty per cent. advance on the wholesale price of any liquors, allowing as aforesaid for charges of transportation; and for all other articles of entertainment and refreshment, and for forage or horse provender, the price shall not exceed the rate of seventy-five per cent. more than the usual price of such articles respectively in the same place in the said year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four; Which rates and prices for inn-holders shall be ascertained and determined by the respective Courts of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace at their next sitting after the publication of this act, and a copy or list thereof delivered to every inn-holder or tavern-keeper; and so from time to time thereafter whenever such court shall think proper to make any alteration in the same, or as occasion shall require; and the lists of rates so settled and delivered shall be received and treated by such inn-holders and tavern-keepers in the same manner, and subject them to the like penalties for non-observance, as are mentioned and set forth in an act entitled, *An act for the better regulating Constables, vendues and taverns*, passed in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-eight.

6. That from and after the said twentieth day of April next, the prices of the following articles shall not exceed the sums to them severally affixed, viz.

Good clean wheat by the bushel, weighing sixty pounds, twelve shillings.

Pease and white beans, twelve shillings per bushel.

Good clean buck-wheat, four shillings per bushel.

Good clean oats, four shillings per bushel.

Good merchantable rye or rye-meal, eight shillings per bushel.

Good merchantable Indian-corn or meal, six shillings per bushel.

Merchantable wheat-flour, thirty-three shillings and six-pence per hundred weight.

Superfine flour, middlings and cornel, in the usual proportion, according to quality.

Shorts, strict measure, two shillings and three-pence per bushel.

Bran, strict measure, one shilling and five-pence per bushel.

Rye flour, nineteen shillings per hundred weight.

Good merchantable pork by the carcase, eight-pence per pound.

Well cured, pickled pork, fifteen-pence per pound.

The best grass-fed beef, six-pence per pound.

The best stall-fed beef, nine-pence per pound.

The best mutton or lamb, eight-pence per pound.

The best veal, six-pence per pound.

Rendered tallow, fifteen-pence per pound.

Rendered hogs lard, one shilling per pound.

Raw hides, green, five-pence halfpenny per pound, and in the usual proportion when dried.

Calf skins, green, ten-pence per pound.

Good well tanned foal leather, two shillings and six-pence per pound.

Good well dressed upper leather, four shillings and six-pence per pound, and well dressed calf skins in the usual proportion.

The various kinds of saddle and harness leather not to exceed double the usual price of such leather in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four.

Men's best neat-leather shoes, sixteen shillings per pair.

Men's best calf skin shoes, nineteen shillings per pair.

Boots not to exceed double the usual price of such boots in the same place in the said year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four.

Women's neat leather shoes, of the best quality, thirteen shillings per pair.

Women's calf skin shoes, of the best quality, fifteen shillings and six-pence per pair.

Children's shoes in due proportion, according to size and quality.

Home-made cheese of the best quality, one shilling per pound.

Good fresh butter, two shillings per pound.

Good tarkin or potted butter, eighteen-pence per pound.

Bloomary bar-iron, at the place of manufactory, three pounds per hundred weight.

Refined bar-iron at the place of manufactory, three pounds ten shillings per hundred weight.

Pig-iron, at the place of manufactory, twenty-two pounds ten shillings per ton.

The best American made steel for edge tools, two shillings and six-pence per pound.

Common American made steel, twenty-pence per pound.

Iron pots, kettles, and other light castings, eight-pence per pound.

Large cast-iron kettles and pans for boiling salt, forty-five shillings per hundred weight.

Nail-rods of lit iron, five-pounds five shillings per hundred weight.

Nails of American manufactory, per pound as follows, viz.

Twenty-penny, two shillings and six-pence.

Twelve-penny, two shillings and nine-pence.

Ten-penny, three shillings.

Eight-penny, three shillings and three-pence.

Other nails in the usual proportion.

Scythes, sickles, and all kinds of cutlery of American manufactory, shall not exceed the rate of one hundred and fifty per cent. advance on the price such articles respectively were usually sold at in the said year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four.

Good merchantable, well dried salt, of home manufactory, three pounds fifteen shillings per bushel at the works or place of manufactory, and four-pence per bushel for every mile the same shall be carried by land from thence to the place of sale, for profit and carriage.

Good merchantable pork by the barrel, twelve pounds ten shillings.

Good merchantable beef, by the barrel, ten pounds ten shillings.

Gammons and other bacon well cured, sixteen pence per pound.

Hay of the first crop and best quality, seven pounds ten shillings per ton.

Hay of the second crop and best quality, six pounds per ton; and other hay in proportion to its quality.

7. AND BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That every importer or captor who shall bring into any port or place in this State, any of the articles herein before mentioned, shall, previous to the exposing the same to sale, repair to some Justice of the Peace of the county where such goods are intended to be sold, and lay before him genuine and authentic invoices or bills of parcels of the goods, wares, and merchandizes so imported or captured and intended for sale, which Justice is hereby required to inspect such invoice or bills of parcels, and calling to his assistance some person or persons skilled in trade, if he shall think it necessary, regulate the same agreeable to this act, and to deliver to such importer or captor a certificate in writing under his hand, mentioning the prices at which the several articles contained in such invoice or bills of parcels may lawfully be sold by such importer or captor; and the said Justice is hereby required to administer an oath or affirmation, as the case may require, to the owner of such goods or to any other person he may think necessary, in order the better to ascertain the prime cost of such goods, wares and merchandize. And if any person or persons who shall have imported or captured any goods, wares and merchandize, and brought them into this State, shall offer them to sale not having obtained such certificate as aforesaid, or shall presume to sell any article for a greater price than is allowed in such certificate when obtained, such person shall for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of fifty pounds, and moreover shall forfeit the goods, wares and merchandize so offered to sale being unsold or the sum received or agreed on for the price thereof in case they are sold, to be recovered and applied as is herein after directed.

8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That each and every retailer and vender of any of the foreign articles which shall be certified as aforesaid, shall, previous to the exposing the same to sale, repair to some Justice of the Peace of the county in which he proposes to sell such goods and lay before him authentic invoices, bills of parcels, or accounts of purchase of such articles, the truth and

authenticity of which he shall prove on oath or affirmation as the case may require, and the said Justice shall thereupon deliver to the person so making oath or affirmation a certificate specifying the price at which he is entitled by this law to sell the same; and if any person or persons shall offer to make sale of any of the said articles without having first obtained such certificate, he shall for each offence forfeit and pay the sum of six pounds, and moreover shall forfeit the goods so offered to sale, being unsold, or the sum agreed on or received for the price thereof in case they are sold, to be recovered and applied as is herein after directed.

9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall ask, require, demand or receive a higher or greater price for any of the articles herein before mentioned than what is thereto affixed or limited, he or she so offending shall for each offence forfeit the sum of six pounds, and moreover shall forfeit the goods for which such higher price shall have been asked, required, demanded or received, such goods being not sold, or the sum received or agreed on for the price thereof in case they are sold, to be recovered and applied as aforesaid in manner herein after directed.

10. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons from and after the aforesaid twentieth day of April next shall give or pay a higher price for any article herein limited than is allowed by this act, and shall not within ten days thereafter make complaint thereof to some Justice of the Peace of the county where such purchase shall have been made, such purchaser on conviction thereof shall forfeit and pay the sum of six pounds, to be recovered and applied as is herein after directed.

11. AND WHEREAS many persons, inhabitants of this State, have, from time to time, in order to distress their country and forward the designs of the enemies thereof, been guilty of the shameful practice of engrossing and with-holding from those who are in want sundry necessaries of life, and utterly refusing to sell the same, though possessed of more than their own consumption requires, BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons having more of any article or articles herein before mentioned than may be necessary for his or her family's use, or for carrying on his or her trade or business, shall refuse to sell the overplus or a reasonable part thereof to any person or persons who is in want of the same for his or her family's annual use or subsistence, or for carrying on his or her trade or business, or shall refuse to sell the said overplus or a requisite part thereof to any person properly authorized to purchase for the use of the army of the United States, or any detachment thereof, the person desirous to purchase shall apply to any Justice of the Peace of the county where the person having such overplus resides, which Justice being fully informed and convinced of the necessity and want under which the said applicant labours, he shall summon the offender to appear before him at such time and place as he shall think proper to direct, to be mentioned in the summons, and if on lawful service of the said summons he or she so refusing as aforesaid shall neglect to appear as therein required, or if on his or her appearance and examination it shall be evident to the said Justice that he or she are possessed of a greater quantity of any of the said articles than is necessary as aforesaid, the said Justice is hereby required to issue his warrant to any Constable of the county, and where there is no Constable, to any Subaltern militia officer, commanding him to call to his assistance such and so many persons as may be necessary, and take such proportion of the overplus aforesaid in whatever county the goods may be found, as may be required for the supply of the person so complaining, which goods shall be sold to the complainant, and the money, after deducting six-pence for the warrant and five shillings for the Constable or person officiating in his room, with other necessary and reasonable expences, shall be lodged in the hands of the Justice to be by him delivered to the owner, when he shall apply for the same; and if the owner of the said goods shall neglect to apply for the said money within the space of one month after the same is paid into the hands of the said Justice, it shall be forfeited to the use of the State, and paid by the said Justice to the county collector, to be by him paid into the public treasury; and the receipt of the said Collector shall discharge the said Justice from the money so paid, and for ever bar the owner so neglecting, from any suit, action, or claim, for the recovery thereof.

12. PROVIDED ALWAYS, That neither this act, nor any clause, matter or thing therein contained shall be taken or construed to alter or make void any contract, bargain or sale already entered into or agreed upon.

13. AND WHEREAS divers fines and forfeitures are herein before mentioned, and no particular mode is mentioned for the recovery and appropriation thereof, BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, that the several offences for which the said fines and forfeitures herein before mentioned and unappropriated are regulated and declared, are and shall be cognizable before any one Justice of the Peace of the county in which the offence shall be committed, PROVIDED ALWAYS that the party defendant in all cases where the fine or forfeiture shall exceed forty shillings, shall be entitled to have a trial by a jury as in other cases

made cognizable before a Justice of the Peace: And where judgment shall be given for the recovery of any such fine or forfeiture, the same when recovered shall be paid to the Collector of the county in which the offence shall have been committed, deducting reasonable costs, and by such Collector paid to the Treasurer, for the use of the State.

14. AND BE IT ENACTED by the authority aforesaid, That the act, intituled, *An act for regulating and limiting the prices of sundry articles of produce, manufacture and trade, and to prevent forestalling, regrating and engrossing*, made and passed the eleventh day of December last, be and continue in force no longer than till the said twentieth day of April next, and that the said act be at that time and from thenceforth repealed.

Passed at Trenton, March 31, 1778.

A true Copy,

JOHN HART, Speaker of the General Assembly.

HAMBURG, December 9.

ALL our letters from Petersburg and Warsaw speak of a war between Russia and the Porte as a certainty. Those from Russia mention, that the court had sent back the courier which came lately from Constantinople; and as it was imagined that a declaration of war would follow, they are taking the necessary measures for the event. Those from Warsaw say, that a necessary diet will absolutely be held, and that the Republick are making such arrangements as seem to indicate that they would take part in the approaching war; that 600 men are commanded to put the fortifications of Kaminiack in order, the garrison of which will be doubled, and made to consist of 4000 men; and that 20,000 muskets are making for the Republick at Liege, which are to be ready early in the spring. These preparations may have given rise to a report which gains much credit, that Poland will declare in alliance with Russia against the Turks, as soon as the war breaks out.

Dec. 14. We have accounts from Copenhagen, that the town of Scheen, in Norway, has been entirely consumed by a dreadful fire, by which a large quantity of timber for ship building and several saw mills were burnt.

Vienna, Dec. 4. The report which has been some time current of an alliance between five great potentates still continues, and appears to be equally current by our letters from several quarters.

PROVIDENCE, March 28.

Extract of a letter from Bordeaux, dated Dec. 30. "It is asserted here as a fact, that Dr. Franklin hath been presented to the King of France, and acknowledged by the latter to be Ambassador from the Thirteen United States of America; that Dr. Franklin had engaged that the Americans would deliver Canada into the hands of France; that 20,000 French troops are to embark for Canada; and that France, Spain and Portugal have entered into an alliance with the Americans."

Another letter from Bordeaux, dated December 31, mentions that a Courier had arrived from Paris, and brought a confirmation of the foregoing important intelligence.

BOSTON, March 26.

A vessel is arrived at Marblehead from Gaudaloupe, the master of which informs, that he saw several private letters from France, which gave an account that France, Spain, Portugal and Holland had declared the independence of America.

April 2. Last Friday 75 volunteers, at Casco-Bay, turned out to join General Washington at the Southward.

Several vessels have lately arrived at different ports from the West-Indies, and bring an account that France, Spain, Portugal and Holland had declared the American states free and independent.

Last Thursday arrived safe in port, a prize ship of 10 guns and 20 men. She was bound from New-York to the West-Indies, for a cargo of rum for Howe's troops at New-York, but taken by the privateer sloop Independence, of this port, Capt. Peter Pollard, after an obstinate engagement of five glasses. The Captain of the ship is badly wounded in two places; and the brave Captain Pollard had five of his hands wounded, though not dangerous.

Extract of a letter, dated Mole, 28th Feb. 1778.

"We have a report here that meets with general credence, of France, Spain, Hungary and Prussia recognizing the Americans an independent people."

HARTFORD, March 31.

An authentick extract of a Holland news-paper, dated Wesel, December 3, 1777.

"The King of Prussia has shown his friendship to the Americans, by ordering a number of cannon to be planted along the river Rhine, with directions to sink any transports conveying German troops, engaged by their pettit princes to fight against the Americans. The transports were obliged to return, and the troops to march by land; after which the cannon were removed to the citadel."

Extract of a letter from a principal merchant in Amsterdam, to his friend in this state, dated December 6, 1777.

"Believe me, America has many friends here, who wish to support their great cause. But we can do nothing. Proud England is watchful of the least of

our movements, and has already unjustly injured us, by taking many of our West-India ships, to the cost of the owners. If we had as good an opportunity as France, we could support America; but our vessels must all pass the channel, which is crowded with British men of war, who examine every thing by force and with unrighteous severity."

BALTIMORE, March 31.

St. Eustatius, February 26, 1778.

THE 25th of this month we have received letters from France, dated the 30th and 31st of December, of which the following is an extract.—"The war betwixt the Russians and the Turks is confirmed. The House of Bourbon has entered into an alliance with the States of the Thirteen United Provinces; in consequence of which Mr. Franklin has been presented to the King, in quality of their Ambassador. It is added to the news, that the King of Prussia has notified to the English ambassador, charging him to acquaint his court, that he was going to lend three vessels, loaded with 15,000 muskets, for North-America, carrying his flag; and that if they were in the least disturbed by the English, in their way, that he had 100,000 men ready to seize upon the electorate of Hanover. This action strongly characterises the great and intrepid Frederick, and bears very little affinity to his great age."

WILLIAMSBURG, March 20.

Yesterday about 250 of our state troops, and as many of the late draughts, began their march from this city in order to join his Excellency General Washington.

TRENTON, April 23.

Saturday last the General Assembly of this State adjourned to the 27th of May next, then to meet at Princeton. During their sitting, they passed sixteen acts, the titles of which will be in our next.

Extract of a letter from Baltimore, dated March 24, 1778.

"A letter written by Mr. Teccit of St. Eustatia is confirmed by the arrival of a Schooner from Martinico. The accounts confidently assure us that France and Spain, by a Manifest which they have published, acknowledge this country as independent for thirty-one years."

"The enemy," says a correspondent, "after the flogging of Burgoyne, have resumed their old trick of sham-treaty. General Tryon (by what authority he best knows) has introduced into New-Jersey a ridiculous publication under the title of "Draught of a bill for declaring the intentions of the parliament of Great-Britain concerning the exercise of the right of imposing taxes within his majesty's colonies, provinces and plantations in North-America," which just amounts to the old nauseous dish (which no honest American could ever swallow) with a little amendment in the cookery and sauces, together with the "Draught of a bill to enable his majesty to appoint commissioners with sufficient powers to treat, consult and agree upon the means of quieting the disorders now subsisting in certain of the colonies, plantations and provinces of North-America." What renders this nonsensical manoeuvre still more ominous is, that General Tryon (and by the name of Governor too) certifies them to be true copies. Surely the ministry might have found a more proper person for that purpose than the most obnoxious of all obnoxious animals by his professed declarations in the pleasure he takes in burning, kidnapping, and every species of desolation—And offering Pardon too—consummate impudence!—Who wants and will stoop to accept of a pardon for defending his country against the most villainous tyranny that was ever devised by the art of man.—Divide and rule. But America has too much sense to be so gull'd."

The enemy have been very busy some days past in distributing and posting up the above-mentioned draughts of bills in Philadelphia, and a number of them were also sent out with the party that made an excursion to Bristol, which were dropped in many places on the way. They are since published in one of the Philadelphia papers, accompanied with a speech of Lord North's, spoken previous to his bringing them into parliament—which, for the satisfaction of our Readers, will be in our next.

On Thursday night last a party of the British light dragoons came from Philadelphia to Bristol, where they surprized and made prisoners 13 of our militia, some of whom they cut and abused in the most barbarous manner.

We hear it is currently reported in Philadelphia, that a declaration of war between France and England has taken place—that Mr. Pitt is actually at the head of affairs—that the King of Prussia has marched 9000 men into the Prince of Hesse's dominions, in order to oblige him to recal his troops from America—that Europe is in a tumult—and that there has been a mob in London, which carried through the streets the effigy of General Washington, whom they declared the supporter of liberty; and their zeal transported them to such a height, that they broke the windows and roughly handled the persons of those who would not illuminate.

Monday last the house of Mr. Evan Reynolds, near this town, took fire by accident, while the family were from home, and was entirely consumed.

MARRIED the 5th instant, in Berks county, Pennsylvania, Mr. JOHN HELTINGS, a gentleman of 40 years of age, to Miss BETSY OLD, an amiable young lady of 14.

The next Supreme Court for this State is appointed, by ordinance, to be held at Crosswicks on the second Tuesday in May next.

No more Subscriptions can be received at present for this GAZETTE for Want of Paper. As this is an Article greatly wanted for many other Uses, it is ardently to be wished that every Family in this State would be careful to save their Rags, and send them, as Opportunity offers, either to the Paper-Mill at Spotswood, to the Printing-Office at Trenton, or to Anthony Armbruster's in Burlington—where THREE PENCE per Pound is given for those that are delivered clean whether coarse or fine, or whether Cotton or Linen. It is expected that Storekeepers, who wish well to their Country, will lend their Assistance in taking them in, and to whom a Compensation will be made.

HIS Excellency the Governor desires the gentlemen employed by this state to purchase horses for the service, to send them as soon as purchased to such of the following places as may be most convenient, with reference to those parts of the state in which they are bought, taking receipts for the same, with the proper descriptions, to wit, to Capt. Harrison, at Pennington; to Col. Shelden, at Chatham; to Major Clough, at Trenton; or to Lieut. Col. White, at Brunswick, or the commanding officers at those places.

T O B E L E T

ON REASONABLE TERMS, with or without the Stock on hand,

A Large commodious TAN-YARD, containing 64 fats, 3 limes, two water pools, through which a never failing stream of water runs, a large bark house, which will contain about 300 cords of bark, a good currying shop, skin-dressers shop, and every conveniency necessary for carrying on (as has been done for some years past) the tanning, currying, skin-dressing and breeches-making businesses very extensively: Also a large two-story building, lately occupied for file-making, brass-foundry, and sundry branches of cutlery, with a convenient blacksmith's shop; all which may be entered on immediately. The subscriber proposing to decline business, the few remaining goods on hand are to be sold together at prime cost, for ready money. All persons indebted to him by bond, bill, or otherwise, are desired to make payment immediately, in order to enable him to discharge the demands against him.

STACY POTTS. 4w1

Trenton, State of New-Jersey,

April 20, 1778.

N. B. All kinds of TANNED LEATHER will be given in exchange for any quantity of good BARK delivered at the said tan-yard the ensuing season, agreeable to the new regulating law of this state, the highest price in ready money, or at their respective former prices; and the greatest wages allowed by law will be given for a number of WORKMEN to finish off the stock, &c.

Wanted immediately.

A PLANTATION, with pretty good buildings, containing about 150 or 200 acres of good land, including not less than 20 or 30 acres of well improved meadow, and a sufficient quantity of wood land. Enquire of the Printer.

Princeton, April 20, 1778.

THE Publick is hereby informed, That the GRAMMAR SCHOOL in this place was opened on Monday, the 13th instant, agreeable to the former notice. Those who intend sending their children, are requested not to delay it, as it greatly adds to the trouble when they begin at different periods.

The under graduates of the college are also informed, that the vacation is up on the 10th of May, when college orders will again begin, and due attendance be given to the instruction, by the proper officers. 2w

Woodbridge, April 8, 1778.

THIS day the subscriber LOST a PARCHMENT POCKET-BOOK, with a little ferret string, supposed to be lost between Taylor Webster's mill, Scotch Plains and Rahway: It contained two old six pound Jersey bills, one ditto of three pounds, one ditto of one pound ten, one of six shillings, with several other small bills of old money; likewise about fifty dollars in Continental money. Any person finding the same, and giving information to James Fitz-Randolph, inn-keeper near the Short Hills, or to Edward Fitz-Randolph in Woodbridge, or to William Young, inn-keeper near Succasunny Plain, Morris county, so that the owner can have it again, shall be entitled to Twenty Dollars reward, by me

ROBERT MILLER. 4w11

Pompton, April 9, 1778.

WAS taken up, near the house of the subscriber, at Pompton, in Bergen county, New-Jersey, a BLACK MARE, 14 hands and an half high, 5 years old this grass, trots and paces. She was taken up in the winter of 1777, and was very poor at that time. The owner is desired to apply, pay charges, and take her away. JOHN V. HOUTEN.

N. B. The mare has no brand or mark. 1x

CONGRESS having resolved to raise a Corps consisting of INFANTRY and CAVALRY, to be commanded by General Count PULASKI. All those who desire to distinguish themselves in the service of their Country, are invited to enlist in that corps, which is established on the same principles as the Roman Legions were. The frequent opportunities which the nature of the service of that corps will offer to the enterprising, brave and vigilant soldiers who shall serve in it, are motives which ought to influence those who are qualified for Admission into it, to prefer it to other corps not so immediately destined to harass the enemy; and the many captures which will infallibly be made, must indemnify the legionary soldiers for the hardships they must sustain, and the considerable sum given for bounty, the term for their service being no longer than one year from the time that the corps shall be completed. Their dress is calculated to give a martial appearance; and to secure the soldier against the inclemency of the weather and season. The time for action approaching, those who desire to have an opportunity of distinguishing themselves in that corps, are requested to apply to Col. Kovatch, at Easton, to Major Julius, Count of Mont-Fort, at head-quarters, or at Major Recken's quarters at Trenton.

In CONGRESS, April 6, 1778.
Resolved.

THAT if any of the states in which Brigadier General Pulaski shall recruit for his Legion, shall give to persons enlisting in the same for three years or during the war, the bounty allowed by the state, in addition to the Continental bounty, the men so furnished, not being inhabitants of any other of the United States, shall be credited to the quota of the state in which they shall be enlisted.

Extract from the Minutes,
CHA. THOMSON, Sec.

EIGHT DOLLARS REWARD.

WAS taken away last winter by the Hessians, from near Bordentown, a Negro LAD about 14 or 15 years of age, middling thick set, of a yellow colour, his name Dorus, belonging to the subscriber, who has been informed he hath made his escape from the enemy at Philadelphia, and was seen at Bristol some short time since. Whoever will secure the above Negro lad, and deliver him to James Efdale at Burlington, to Thomas Waton at Bordentown, or to the subscriber at the New-Mills, shall have the above reward and reasonable charges.

3w* HENRY BUDD.
Burlington County, April 13, 1778.

To be sold for Continental Money,

A VALUABLE plantation, pleasantly situated in Montgomery township, Philadelphia county, containing one hundred acres of good land, seventy acres thereof cleared, the remainder part well timbered; the clear land divided into several fields, which hath all been limed except one, and a quantity of good meadow. There is on said premises a commodious stone dwelling-house two stories high, with four rooms on a floor and a cellar under the whole, with a stone kitchen adjoining the house, a well of water near the door, and a pump therein, a never-failing spring of good water and a stone house over it; there is on said premises a good frame barn, stables, cow-house, cart-house, smoke-house, and other out-houses; also two apple orchards, which produceth good fruit; there is likewise on said premises a large and convenient tan yard, sufficient to contain 700 hides, with all the buildings thereon and all the stock therein, bark, &c. &c. For further particulars apply to the subscriber on the premises.

EDWARD BARTHOLOMEW.
April 11, 1778.

SIX POUNDS REWARD.

WAS STOLEN out of the stable of Philip Van Horne, at Phils-hill, Somerset county, on Saturday night the 4th of April, a small grey horse, about eight or nine years old, between twelve and thirteen hands high, trots, and has been much galled with the saddle. Whoever apprehends and secures both thief and horse, shall have the above reward, or for the horse only three pounds, paid by the subscriber.

PHILIP VAN HORNE.
April 18, 1778.

STRAYED OR STOLEN

FROM the subscriber, on the 13th instant, a dark chestnut sorrel MARE, about 13 hands and a half high, has many grey hairs in her forehead, her mane cut underneath in order to thin it. Whoever secures said mare so that the owner may have her again, shall receive Ten Dollars reward for the mare or Twenty for the thief and mare, paid by me.

WILLIAM HUTCHENSON.
Walsh's mills, April 15, 1778.

BAY RICHMOND

STANDS at Long-Bridge, nine miles from Princeton, in excellent order, to cover mares the ensuing season at Ten Pounds. His pedigree is in the hands of Mr. Thomas Wetherill at the above-mentioned place.

A R A B I A N
WILL COVER MARES this season at Maiden-head, on the farm formerly the property of Willson Hunt, Esq. at Six Pounds the season. This horse was got by Wildair, his dam by Babraham, his grandam by old Sterling, his great grandam by Merry Andrew out of Laughing Polly; she won the King's hundred guineas at Hambleton, and was got by Childers, her dam by Constellor, and own sister to Thunderbolt, her grandam by Luggs, and her great grandam by Davill's Old Woodcock. The best of pasture will be provided for mares.

Maidenhead, April 10, 1778. 6w*
A FEW barrels of TAR to be sold by STACY POTTS, in Trenton.

T O B E S O L D.
ONE Ton of Castings, very suitable for making of salt; they consist of two pans four feet long and three wide, two kettles, each containing forty-five gallons, and one ditto seventeen gallons. For further particulars enquire of the Printer.

THE BEAUTIFUL HORSE
A P O L L O,

THE property of the subscriber, will COVER the ensuing season at his stables in Westfield, seven miles from Elizabeth-Town, East New-Jersey, at Five Pounds each mare, and Five Shillings to the groom; the money to be paid at first covering, or before the mare is taken away, if required. Apollo is four years old this grass, fifteen hands and a half high, in excellent order; his blood, strength, spirit and activity equal perhaps to the best horse on the continent. Good pasture for mares at half a dollar per week.

April 2, 1778. NOAH MARSH.

TEN DOLLARS REWARD.

DESERTED from my company of the second Jersey regiment, commanded by Col. Shreve, a certain GEORGE COOK, a likely fellow, twenty years of age, and about five feet seven inches high, by trade a tailor. Whoever will secure said Cook, so that he may be returned to said regiment, shall be entitled to the above reward, and all reasonable charges, paid by

JONA. PHILLIPS, Capt. 3w*
Fish-Kill.

SOME time in May last I bought a State Lottery Ticket from a person at Morris-Town, whose name is unknown to me; he entered the number of ticket, and my name, which ticket I have since lost at Fort Montgomery at the time of the enemy taking possession of the same. My name and number of the ticket may be found in the records of said lottery; which, if said ticket should be so fortunate as to draw a prize, the managers of the same are requested not to pay any money to any person on producing said ticket, and they will oblige their very humble servant,

J. ROSEKRANS.
1w*

T O B E S O L D,

A Likely, handy NEGRO BOY, about fourteen or fifteen years of age. He is an excellent house servant, and would suit any gentleman that wants a waiting-boy. Enquire of Mrs. Rofs, at Brunswick landing.

April 11, 1778. 1w*

ALL persons concerned in the prize brigantine William and Ann, taken by Captain James Morgan and others, are desired to attend at the house of Mr. James Wall, inn-keeper at Freehold Court-house, in the county of Monmouth, on Friday the 15th of May next, at eight o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to exhibit their pretensions to shares, whether as captors or purchasers, and receive their dividend of such money as may be received. All persons who have purchased at the sales of said brigantine and cargo, are desired immediately to attend and discharge their vendue accounts, as they wish to avoid having these accounts put in an attorney's hands.

DAVID FORMAN, Agent.
Freehold, April 14, 1778. 4w*

200 Dollars Reward.

WAS stolen by her mother, a NEGRO GIRL about 9 or 10 years old, named Dianah--Her mother's name is Cass, and was married to an Indian named Lewis Wolis near 6 feet high, about 35 years of age--They have a male child with them between three and four years old. Any person that takes up the said Negroes and Indian and secures them, so that the subscriber may get them, shall have the above reward and all reasonable charges.

Any person that underlands distilling rye spirits, may find encouragement by applying to the subscriber at his own house.

KENNETH HANKINSON.
Penelapen, East New-Jersey, April 15, 1778.

TO THE PUBLICK.

I Understand the business of Mould-making in all its branches to perfection. I can make moulds in the best method for casting cannon balls, and in such a way that it's both profitable to the iron-master and myself; and grape shot in a method that the iron-master can make a ton per day. Any person wanting such a man may apply to the printer hereof.

T O B E S O L D,
ANY time between this and the tenth of May next, and if not sold then, to be let, two houses in the city of New-Brunswick, State of New-Jersey, situate in the main street leading from the ferry, to wit, one on the North side of said street, lately in the possession of Mrs. Catharine Van Allen, deceased, in tolerable good order and in which a store has been kept for many years. The other on the south side of said street, left much out of repair by the British troops who were the last tenants. For terms of sale enquire of Mr. William Harrison in Brunswick, or the subscriber at the Quarter-Master's office in Trenton. SAMUEL H. SULLIVAN, Admin.

Trenton, April 10, 1778.

By virtue of a writ of fieri facias to me directed, I will be exposed to sale by way of public vendue, the 16th of June next ensuing, at the premises, a valuable plantation situate in Readington, Hunterdon county, New-Jersey, whereon the widow Vanderon speigel now lives, containing about 300 acres. There is on it a good dwelling house and barn, a good bearing orchard, good tilable land, a large quantity of good meadow, and much more may be easily made, well watered and in a healthy part of the country. Vendue to begin at 12 o'clock, and the conditions made known by

JOS. INSLEE, Sheriff.
Hunterdon County, April 13, 1778. 9w*

PUBLICK notice is hereby given to the Subscribers for the New-Jersey Gazette at Allentown, Hight's town, Cranberry, English-town, and Monmouth County--house, that I will, if encouraged, ride post at the moderate price of 7/6 to Allentown, per annum, to Hight's-town for 10/6 to Cranberry for 11/6 to English-town for 12/6, and to Monmouth Court-house for 15/6 provided there are 250 subscribers to the post, (one quarter of the money to be paid in hand) and as many more as shall sign for the paper, and pay the post equivalent.

JOHN VANKIRK.
Middlesex County, April 3, 1778.

A HORSE for Sale,

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

4w*

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.

Freehold, March 21, 1778. 2w*

F I N E
SAFFRON, PIGTAIL,
PLUG AND SQUARE CUT
T O B A C C O,

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

SIX POUNDS REWARD.

WAS STOLEN out of the stable at Nehameny Perry, 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.
6w*

ALL persons indebted to the estate of the Widow Van Allen, 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.

TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.

STOLEN out of a stable at Trenton, on Friday night the 27th of March 1778, a red roan horse fourteen hands and a half high, trots, marked in the right ear with a half penny, large mane, and shod all round. Whoever takes up said horse so that the owner may have him again, and the thief is brought to justice, shall have the above reward; or for the horse TEN DOLLARS and reasonable charges paid by the subscriber, living near Kingston, in Middlesex county,

JOHN BASTEDO. 5w*