

Maryland Gazette

my measures accordingly; and desire that his majesty's boat now sent on shore, will return with an immediate answer. I am,

Sir,

Your humble servant,

GEO. MONTAGU.

The President of the Council of Safety.

In COUNCIL of SAFETY.

Annapolis, June 25, 1776.

SIR,

BY command of the Convention I inclose you their resolution of yesterday which expresses the occasion of discontinuing an intercourse with the Powey, which was wished and expected to have ended more satisfactorily. Any measures that may be attempted for the ostensible cause of stopping the governor's baggage must properly be imputed to your breach of the truce, and will be resented in full proportion to the injury.

For and on behalf of the Council of Safety,

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

DAN. OF ST. THO. JENIFER, P.

GEORGE MONTAGU, Esq;

In CONVENTION.

25 June, 1776.

THIS Convention being informed that writs of election have been issued in the name of the proprietary, for the election of delegates in assembly,

RESOLVED, That the said writs be not obeyed, and that no election be made in consequence thereof.

Extract from the minutes,

G. DUVALL, clk.

Yesterday about noon the Powey hoisted sail, and went down the Bay.

AT a very respectable meeting of the associators of Anne Arundel county, held at West-River on Saturday the twenty-second instant, the following important questions were submitted to their consideration.

1st. Whether in the opinion of the associators present, the province of Maryland should or should not be bound by the determination of the majority of the United Colonies upon all questions to be agitated in Congress, such only excepted as are calculated to regulate or in any manner interfere in the internal government of the province. Resolved unanimously in the affirmative.

2^{dy}. Whether the instructions that were imposed upon the delegates of this province in Congress, by the

acute deliberations of the Convention as the law of the land, and by which they therefore could not be drawn out on the ground of criminals no adequate punishment could be

many other reasons will suggest themselves to every reader, and convince him, that the present mode of government by Convention, ought now to cease. Policy, prudence and our safety call for the establishment of a proper, effectual and well regulated government. The writer of this paper would be for an abolition of government by Convention, if the conduct of the two last was wholly unexceptionable. It has been well observed, "that in the relation of constituent and representative, one principal security of the former is the right he holds to be fully informed of the conduct of the latter, and no case can exist in which it would be of more importance to exercise this right than the present, nor any in which the representative would more willingly acquiesce in the exercise of it." The late Convention were pleased to declare, "that they had no intention or desire to prevent any person from freely examining into their conduct, or to exercise his judgment, or to communicate his sentiments as to the abilities or fitness of any man to fill the office to which he is appointed; and that it is necessary for the purpose of filling the places of highest trust, with the best and most approved characters, in the community, and for the preservation of public liberty, that there should be such free investigations." The right of examining into the public conduct of their rulers is inherent in the people. The Convention have given their public testimony of the propriety of the exercise of it. Without the caution annexed, I would not wantonly and licentiously traduce, by misrepresentations, the conduct of any public body, or of any individual.

The conduct of the December Convention, in appointing about fifty out of their number (eighty) to be brigadiers and field officers of the militia, has given great offence. A monopoly in trade or power will not be tolerated in a free government. I am sorry to mention the mode of appointing the officers of the regular troops. Merit should be the only recommendation to office. To truck, to bargain for each others votes, without any enquiry into the pretensions or abilities of the person proposed, and with no other condition than if you will vote for my friend, I will give my voice for yours, was mean, dishonourable and disgraceful. The refusal to vote individually, by which the conduct of each member might be known to his constituents, was very exceptionable. That eighteen members should make the law for this province is impolitic and unjust. An equal representation of the people is the best and greatest security for their liberty, and the public cannot conceive the reasons for the Convention's rejecting a motion to that purpose. The charter of this province has been deemed sacred by our Conventions; the charter to the city of Annapolis grants the citizens a right to send two delegates to assembly, and an act of our assembly confirms that right; the Convention disregarded the petition of the citizens to send delegates to Convention. The instructions given by the Convention to their deputies in Congress, discovered a want of confidence in the

Maryland Gazette

Copy of a letter from the Hon. John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, to the Representatives of this city, dated Philadelphia, June 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN,
THE Congress have this day received notice, and are fully convinced, that it is the design of the enemy to make an attack upon New York, as soon as possible. The attack, they have reason to believe, will be made within ten days; I am therefore most earnestly to request you, by order of Congress, to call forth your militia, as requested in my letter of the 4th instant, and to forward them, with all dispatch, to the city of New York: And that you direct that they march in companies, or any other way that will best suit the occasion. The important day is at hand that will decide not only the fate of the city of New York, but in all probability of the whole province. On this occasion there is no necessity to use arguments with merchants; their feelings, I well know, will prompt them to their duty, and the sacredness of the cause will urge them to the field. The greatest exertions of vigour and expedition are requisite to prevent our enemies from getting possession of that town; I must therefore most earnestly request you, in the name, and by the authority of the Congress, to send forward the militia agreeable to the requisition of Congress, and that you will do it with all the dispatch which the importance of the cause demands.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

In PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Resolved, New York, June 1, 1776.

THAT the thanks of this Congress be presented to his excellency general Washington, for the important services he has rendered to the United Colonies, and for the attention he has paid to the interest and authority of this colony; and that he be assured of the readiness of this Congress to afford him all the aid in their power, to enable him to execute the important trust reposed in him.

Ordered, That the president wait upon general Washington, and communicate the said resolution to him.

June 9. The president informed the Congress, pursuant to the order of yesterday, he waited upon his excellency general Washington, and communicated to him the resolve therein mentioned; that his excellency was pleased to return the following answer, and requested the president to communicate the same to Congress.

"Gentlemen,

"I am extremely obliged for the high sense you entertain of my services, and for your promises of every possible assistance in the discharge of my important duty.

"You may rest assured, that my attendance in the happiness of this colony shall not be wanting. I have regard to its civil authority remitted, which I am honoured with the command I now hold.

ANNAPOLIS, June 17.
In CONVENTION.

By order and on behalf of the Council of Safety,
I am,
Your most obedient servant,
CHA. CARROLL, V. P.
George Montagu, Esq.
In COUNCIL of SAFETY.
Annapolis, June 24, 1776.

SIR,
APPLICATION having been made this morning by Mr. Samuel Galloway and other inhabitants of this province to our board, representing that a number of servants had left their masters, a list of which we have been furnished, and that they had reason to believe they were gone on board the ship of war or her tenders now at anchor in the road.

We request the favour of your excellency to interpose your good offices with Capt. Montagu for the delivery of the servants to their respective masters, if they should be found on board. We are authorized by the Convention to say, that the people of this province will strictly observe the truce, in confidence that Capt. Montagu will do the same.

By order and on behalf of the Council of Safety,
I am, with respect and regard,

Your excellency's most obedient servant
CHA. CARROLL, V. P.

His excellency ROBERT BOWEN, Esq.
Foway, of Annapolis, 25 June, 1776.

SIR,
IT is my wish, in every respect, inviolably to preserve the truce under which his majesty's ship Foway came up this bay for his excellency your governor, and as soon as his effects are all on board, which I expect them to be to-morrow morning, the Foway will return to the fleet, without committing any body, if his majesty's colours receive no insult.

With regard to the servants for whose return you apply, my instructions prohibit my discharging them, to suffer perhaps a severe and ignominious sentence, nor is it in my power to deliver up any subjects of his majesty who embrace his service, and risk their lives in seizing an opportunity for that purpose.

The orders to his majesty's ships are peremptory, to receive all persons who are affected, and give them every protection.—Such being a general order, I

Ms. Gazette

ANNAPOLIS, June 27.
In CONVENTION.

THE letters of capt. Montagu, and of Robert Eden, Esq; of this day, to the Council of Safety, were laid before the Convention, and on consideration thereof,

RESOLVED *unanimously*, That the said capt. Montagu, by detaining several servants belonging to the inhabitants of this province, and by refusing to deliver up a soldier who deserted from the service of this colony, hath violated the truce and acted in manifest violation of his promise to preserve the same sacred.

ORDERED, That the commanding officer do not permit any baggage or effects belonging to Robert Eden, Esq; or any other person on board the Fowey, to be carried on board the said ship; and to take care that all communication with the said ship immediately cease.

ORDERED, That the letters of capt. Montagu to Robert Eden, Esq; of yesterday, and the several letters from the Council of Safety, of this day, to capt. Montagu and Robert Eden, Esq; and their answers, together with the above resolve and order, be immediately published.

Extract from the minutes,

G. DUVALL, clk.

FOWEY, *off Annapolis, Maryland, 23d June, 1776.*
SIR,

I HAVE the happiness to acquaint you, that last night I arrived here with his Britannic majesty's ship the Fowey under my command, agreeable to an order from captain Hamond of his majesty's ship the Roebuck, and senior officer of his majesty's ships at Virginia: and in consequence of your application to him, I have hoisted the flag of truce at my fore-top-gallant-mast-head, to show that I am not come in an hostile manner, and of which I desire you will be pleased to acquaint the inhabitants, that they may not offer any insults to my officers and boats, and on my part I shall hold the truce most sacred.—I have the pleasure to acquaint you that every accommodation the Fowey can afford is at your, and your friends service, and that my boat shall at any time be ready to attend your coming off; and sent for your property. I am,

Sir,

Your very humble servant,

GEO. MONTAGU.

To ROBERT EDEN, Esq;

In COUNCIL of SAFETY.

SIR,

Annopolis, June 24, 1776.
REPRESENTATIONS have been made to the

purpose.

The orders to receive all persons, and give them every protection.—Such boats along side this ship as are the property of any inhabitants of Maryland shall under the truce be immediately restored to the persons claiming them; I intended to have had them landed this evening.—I hope that no obstruction will be given to the remainder of governor Eden's baggage, and that of the gentlemen going down with him being immediately put on board, as I have orders to proceed down the bay, as soon as that service which brought me up is completed. I am,

Sir,

Your humble servant,

CHAS. CARROLL, Esq; GEO. MONTAGU.

His majesty's ship Fowey, June 24th, 1776.
SIR,

IN answer to your letter by capt. Stone, which I have just received, relative to the application made by Mr. Galloway and others, on account of some runaway servants, I can only say that capt. Montagu's orders, "to receive on board, and give protection to, all British well affected subjects," are positive, and that he does not consider it in his power, consistently with those orders, to comply with your request.

He says that you cannot consider this refusal as any violation of the truce; that the Fowey has not, and will not, receive any runaway slaves on board; that he is bound by, and must follow, his instructions; that all vessels belonging to this place, now along side, he intends giving up; and that he has never sent ashore to bring servants off, or encourage deserters. I can add no more than that every exertion of my interest, or interposition, on this subject, must prove ineffectual, against the king's orders.

I hope we shall get away to-morrow, and not be delayed by any obstruction to the baggage, or flock, of the gentlemen here, as yet not brought off. Wishing peace and prosperity to the province on constitutional principles, I am,

Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

ROBERT EDEN.

CHARLES CARROLL, Esq; barrister, }
p. of the Council of Safety, Annapolis. }

FOWEY, *off Annapolis, the 25th of June, 1776.*
SIR,

I HAVE been waiting all this day for the return of the boat with the remainder of the governor's baggage, but to my great astonishment perceive she is still along side the wharf; and I yesterday received a letter from Mr. Carroll on behalf of your board, am apprehensive she is detained. If that is the case, it will break off the truce that is now subsisting between his majesty's ship under my command, and the province of Maryland.

"Maryland Gazette"

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Your very humble servant,
GEO. MONTAGU.

To ROBERT EDEN, Esq;

In COUNCIL of SAFETY.

SIR,

Annapolis, June 24, 1776.

REPRESENTATIONS have been made to the Council of Safety this morning by Mr. Samuel Galloway and others inhabitants of this province, setting forth that a number of white servants belong-

ing under the said capt. Montagu, were detained on board this evening.—I hope that the remainder of the governor's baggage, and that of the gentlemen going down with him being immediately put on board, and I have orders to proceed down the bay, as soon as that service which brought me up is completed. I am,

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I desire that you will be pleased to let me know the reason of this delay of the boat, that I may take