

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1775.

L O N D O N .

Extract of a letter from Maryland, Sept. 28.

THE general congress is now sitting, and consists of deputies from every colony on the continent, except Quebec and the two Floridas. You shall hear soon again from me, if they do not recommend a stop to all mercantile commerce with Great Britain. This congress is truly respectable. It consists of about 70 members, men of integrity, men of talents, chosen without solicitation, bribery, or corruption; chosen only on account of their integrity and talents. I will not compare them to the house of commons in point of fortune and property; but I will not degrade them by making it a doubt whether the American congress does not excel both houses of parliament in honour, honesty, and public spirit. All your public papers tell us, both houses of parliament are corrupt and venal; their acts against America speak them tyrannical. Why is England put to the immense expence of sending troops and ships of war to awe us into obedience; is she able, under such a load of debts, to bear an increase? Is the ministry weak enough to think we shall draw the sword, when patience and forbearance of commerce will very effectually answer our purpose? America does not yet contain five millions of souls. In fifty years, according to the common course of population, she may contain at least sixty millions. Will Great Britain then pretend to tax us, and enforce payment by her troops and navy?

Nov. 26. The times are out of joint, says a correspondent, Britannia is sick of many griefs, and yet our stage empirics venture to tamper with her constitution; they administered pills in St. George's Fields, trepanned her at Brentford, squeezed her in the East-Indies, and are now letting her blood in America.

A distinguished writer says of eloquence, that it has preserved the date of liberty, disarmed the hand of power, and decides the fate of civil institutions, by its almost magical dominion over the passions. The influences of this mighty superiority of this great talent, are not very recent, either in Britain, Batavia, Brandenburg, or Boston.

A dispute of a serious nature has arisen between the States General and the Emperors of Russia, on account of the non-payment of the interest long due on the money borrowed of the Dutch by the latter, in order to carry on their late warlike expeditions against the Ottoman Porte; indeed it seems to be a moot point with many politicians, whether the former will ever touch a penny more, either of principal, or interest.

Nov. 29. A motion, it is said, will be made to expel a certain new elected member, whose origin is almost a disgrace to society, and more especially to the great assembly of the nation.

Dec. 13. It is said that the province of Massachusetts-bay has formed itself into an independent government. The late council, late judges, &c. with the house of representatives, are to act; are to execute the laws in all civil and criminal cases, in like manner as before the late act of parliament. And this form, it is said, is to continue till the late acts are repealed.

A certain very great northern potentate is to resign the crown, and come and live in England in less than two years; and a certain celebrated architect has instructions to build a palace suitable for the reception of so great a personage. Adjoining to this palace, which is to be raised in Oxford-road, is to be built a very magnificent theatre, where plays and operas will be exhibited alternately, and gratis, four times a week. The sums necessary for all this expence are already vested in our funds. The revenue to be spent by this building (we reign, will amount to 200,000 l. per ann. It is said that a troop of horse are regularly to mount guard at the new palace. Mém. Chron.

Province of New Hampshire.

AT the convention of the deputies appointed by the several towns in the province aforesaid, held at Exeter on the 25th day of January, 1775. Present 144 members.

Hon. JOHN WENTWORTH, Esq; President.

Voted unanimously, That we heartily approve of the proceedings of the late grand continental congress, respecting the just state of the rights and liberties of the British colonies; and of the means recommended to restore, secure, and protect the same; and that we return our most unfeigned thanks to the late members of that congress in general, and to these of this province in particular, for the faithful discharge of the important trust reposed in them.

Voted, that John Sullivan, and John Langdon, Esqrs. be delegates to represent this province in the continental congress, proposed to be held at Philadelphia, on the tenth day of May next, and that they and each of them in the absence of the other, have full and ample power, in behalf of this province, to consent and agree to all measures, which said congress shall deem necessary to obtain redress of American grievances.

Voted, that two hundred and fifty pounds, lawful money, be raised for defraying the expences of said delegates.

Voted, that the Hon. John Wentworth, Col. Nath. Pilsom, Hon. Meschaz Ware, Esq; Col. Josiah Bartlet, Col. Christopher Toppan, Ebenezer Thompson, and William Whipple, Esqrs. be a committee in behalf of this province to call a provincial convention of deputies, when they shall judge the exigencies of public affairs require it: And that they, together with Samuel Cutts and John Pickering, Esqrs. be a committee of correspondence for this province.

Voted, the following address.

To the inhabitants of the province of New-Hampshire.

Brethren,

WHEN we consider the unhappy condition to which you and your American brethren are reduced! When we reflect, that for near ten months past, you have been deprived of any share in your own government, and of those advantages which flow to society from legislative assemblies; when we view the lowering clouds charged with ministerial vengeance fast spreading over this extensive continent, ready to burst on the heads of its inhabitants, and involve the whole British empire in one common ruin! - this alarming juncture, Duty to Almighty God, to our country, ourselves, and posterity, loudly demands our most strenuous exertions to avoid the impending danger.

Such are the measures adopted by the British ministry, for enslaving you; and with such incessant vigilance has their plan been prosecuted, that tyranny already begins to wave its banners in your borders; and to threaten these once happy regions with infamous and detestable slavery!

Shall we, knowing the value of freedom, and hurled in the arms of liberty, make a base and ignominious surrender of our rights; thereby consigning succeeding generations, to a condition of wretchedness, from which, perhaps, all human efforts will be insufficient to extricate them?

Duty to ourselves, and regard for our country, should induce us to defend our liberties, and to transmit the fair inheritance unimpaired to posterity.

Should our restless enemies drive us to arms in defence of every thing we hold dear, we should be reduced to a state, dreadful even in contemplation; for should we prove victorious, the blood of our brethren, shed in the unhappy contest, would cause the laurels to wither on our brows, and make the conquerors mourn with the vanquished: but should our enemies be successful, they will thereby rivet the chains of slavery upon us and our posterity.

Thus surrounded with dangers and distresses on every side, it behooves us to adopt and pursue such peaceable measures, as, under God, will be most likely to prevent those dreadful calamities with which we are threatened.

Fully sensible, that to point out, with any degree of certainty, the methods by which you may shun the threatening evils would require more than human wisdom, we can only recommend such measures as appear to us most likely to answer that desirable end, best calculated to restore to you that peace and harmony, so ardently wished for, by every good and honest American.

We therefore earnestly recommend,

1st. That you discountenance and discourage all trespasses and injuries against individuals, and their property, and all disorders of every kind; and that you cultivate and maintain peace and harmony, among yourselves.

2d. That you yield due obedience to the magistrates within this government; and carefully endeavour to support the laws thereof.

3d. That you strictly adhere to the association of the late continental congress; and deal with the violators of it, in the manner therein recommended.

4th. That you endeavour particularly to enforce the laws of the province against hawkers, pedlers, and petty chapmen.

5th. That you abstain from the use of East-India tea, whenever, or by whatever means it has, or may be imported.

6th. That you encourage and support your several committees of correspondence and inspection, in discharging the very important trust you have reposed in them.

7th. That in case any inhabitants of these colonies should be seized, in order to be transported to Great Britain, or other parts beyond seas, to be tried, for offences supposed to be committed in America; you conduct yourselves agreeable to the advice of the late continental congress.

8th. That in your several stations, you promote and encourage the manufactures of this country; and endeavour, both by precept and example, to induce all under you, and with whom you are connected, to practise oeconomy, and industry; and to shun all kinds of extravagance.

9th. That the officers of the several regiments strictly comply with the laws of this province for regulating a militia. - And as the militia upon this continent, if properly disciplined, would be able to do great service in its defence, should it ever be invaded by his Majesty's enemies: That you acquaint yourselves with the manual exercise, particularly that recommended and enjoined by the captain-general; the motions being natural, easy, and best calculated to qualify persons for real action; and also to improve themselves in those evolutions which are necessary for infantry in time of engagement.

10th. That, as your enemies are using every art to impoverish and distress you, in order to induce submissions to their arbitrary mandates; you carefully shun those measures which may have a tendency to distress your brethren and fellow-sufferers; and avoid all unnecessary lawsuits, and endeavour to settle disputes between you in the most amicable, and least expensive manner. - That all debtors exert themselves in discharging their just debts, and creditors exercise such lenity as their circumstances will admit of.

11th. That as the inhabitants of the town of Boston in the province of Massachusetts-bay, are now labouring under a load of ministerial vengeance, laid upon them to enforce obedience to certain arbitrary and unconstitutional acts, which, if once submitted to, must involve all America in slavery and ruin: conscious that all these

colonies are largely indebted to the virtue and fortitude of those patriotic assertors of freedom, we heartily recommend a continuation of your contributions, for the relief of that oppressed people: And that you keep yourselves in constant readiness to support them in their just opposition, whenever necessity may require.

Lastly, We earnestly entreat you, at this time of tribulation and distress, when your enemies are urging you to despair; when every scene around is full of gloom and horror; that in imitation of your pious forefathers, with contrition of spirit, and penitence of heart, you implore the divine being, who alone is able to deliver you from your present unhappy and distressing situation, to espouse your righteous cause, secure your liberties, and fix them on a firm and lasting basis. And we fervently beseech him to restore to you, and your American brethren, that peace and tranquillity so ardently desired, and earnestly fought for, by every true friend to liberty and mankind.

By order of the Convention. J. WENTWORTH, Presid.

B O S T O N , February 9.

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS AT CAMBRIDGE, Feb. 7.

WHEREAS it appears to this congress, that certain persons are employed in divers kinds of work for the army, now stationed in Boston, for the purpose of carrying into execution the late acts of parliament, and in supplying them with iron for waggons, canals, tent-poles, and other articles of field equipage: whereby said army may be enabled to take the field, and distress the inhabitants of this country.

Therefore resolved, as the opinion of this congress, and it is accordingly strongly recommended, to the inhabitants of the several towns and districts of this province, that should any person or persons, presume to supply the troops now stationed in Boston, or elsewhere in said province, with timber, boards, spars, pickets, tent-poles, canals, bricks, iron, waggons, carts, carriages, intrenching tools, or any materials for making any of the carriages, or implements aforesaid, with horses or oxen for draught, or any other materials whatever, which may enable them to annoy, or in any manner to distress said inhabitants, he or they so offending shall be held in the highest detestation, and deemed inveterate enemies to America, and ought to be prevented and opposed by all reasonable means whatever.

And whereas it appears to this congress, that large quantities of straw will be wanted by the inhabitants of this province, in case we should be driven to the hard necessity of taking up arms in our own defence:

Therefore resolved, that no person or persons ought to sell or dispose of any straw, which he or they may have on hand, except to the inhabitants of this province for their own, private use, or the use of said province. And it is strongly recommended by this congress, to the committee of correspondence and inspection in the several towns and districts in this province, to see that the above resolves be strictly and faithfully adhered to, till otherwise ordered by this or some other provincial congress, or house of representatives.

A true extract from the minutes, BENJAMIN LINCOLN, secretary.

By a courier just arrived from Cambridge, we learn that the provincial congress now sitting there, have appointed a committee to examine into, and answer his majesty's most gracious speech! and to assure him that there is not a prevailing disposition to infringe the laws, as has been maliciously and falsely represented to his majesty.

J A M A I C A , December 28.

To the KING's most excellent majesty in COUNCIL. The humble PETITION and MEMORIAL of the ASSEMBLY of JAMAICA.

Most gracious sovereign, WE your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the assembly of Jamaica, having taken into our consideration the present critical state of the colonies, humbly approach the throne to assure your majesty of our most dutiful regard to your royal person and family, and our attachment to and reliance on our fellow-subjects in Great-Britain, founded on the most solid and durable basis, the continued enjoyment of our personal rights, and the security of our properties.

That weak and feeble as this colony is, from its very small number of white inhabitants, and its peculiar situation from the incumbrance of more than 200,000 slaves, it cannot be supposed that we now intend, or ever could have intended, resistance to Great-Britain.

That this colony has never, by riots or other violent measures, opposed, or permitted an act of resistance against any law imposed on us by Great-Britain, though always truly sensible of our just rights, and of the pernicious consequences, both to the parent and infant state, with which some of them must be attended; always relying, with the most implicit confidence, on the justice and paternal tenderness of your majesty, even to the most feeble and distant of your subjects, and depending that when your majesty and your parliament should have maturely considered and deliberated on the claims of Great-Britain and her colonies, every cause of dissatisfaction would be removed.

That justly alarmed with the approaching horrors of an unnatural contest between Great-Britain and her colonies, in which the most precious rights of the infant and the inevitable debt of the colonies are involved; and as well as by our affectionate subjects, both in Great-Britain and the colonies, who are