

way of address, by which means it would come under the cognizance of every branch of the legislature.

Gov. Johnson said, he was neither satisfied with the intended motion, nor proposed resolution. He remembered very well, at the time of passing the last bill of indemnity for prohibiting the exportation of corn, there was a speech attributed to Lord Mansfield, who, when he pleads (says the governor) can ride the horse of liberty most ably; where, instead of speaking of private actions, or approving of bills of indemnity, he contended that nothing but a downright pardon, reciting the crime, should be a proper indemnification of those who should advise his majesty to supersede the laws.

Mr. Matham then gave notice, that he should, in pursuance of what he first suggested, move the house for leave to bring in a bill of indemnity.

HOUSE OF LORDS. Wednesday, Nov. 1.

THE duke of Richmond moved, in the house of lords, for leave to enter a protest, in the name of himself and other lords, against the address of the house presented to the king on Friday last, which was agreed to. It is a rule of the house, that protests should be entered the next day after the decision of any business which made it necessary to ask leave of the house upon this occasion.

The duke of Manchester then made an introductory speech to the following motion; that this house is of opinion, that introducing any part of the king's electoral troops, or any other foreign troops whatever, into the service of the crown of Great-Britain, previous to the consent of parliament, is dangerous and unconstitutional.

Lord Rochford, in reply, entered into a justification of the measure, as safe, constitutional, and expedient, on which ground he moved the previous question; that is, to take the sense of the house whether the depending motion shall be put.

An interesting debate followed, and the speakers in support of the previous question, or, in favour of the legality and expediency of the measure of employing the Electoral troops, were the lords Talbot, Rochford, Weymouth, Denbigh, and the lord chancellor. In support of the duke of Manchester's motion, the dukes of Grafton and Richmond, and the lords Effingham, Lyttelton, Shelburne and Camden.

In the course of the debate, all the old arguments, respecting the American contest, were repeated, pro and con, but

The duke of Grafton threw out some new information, purporting that, at a proper time, he would lay before the house a sketch of the force and expenses required to carry on the war against America; and of the burthensome taxes that would follow: His grace nobly declared, that he could not any longer support administration, unless the ministry changed their conduct against America: And in the strongest terms he condemned the measure of embarking the Hanoverian troops before the meeting of parliament.

Lord Camden spoke for a considerable time. His lordship, after having gone shortly into the question first moved, left it on a sudden, and went into the great field of American disputes, and the measures taken by parliament the last session. He observed the ministers had acknowledged themselves to have been deceived. He said the great deceiver lay somewhere hid, and called upon him to come forth and declare himself. He pointed out several instances where they had been deceived, and by reason of which the flower of his majesty's army had been destroyed. He told the house it was not now too late to settle the unhappy dispute to the honour and happiness of both countries. His lordship spoke with his usual greatness, though, at the same time, with much coolness and moderation.

Lord Shelburne and the duke of Richmond called upon the lords in administration to declare, whether they meant to lay the petition of the congress to the king before the house? And they said, that as there were grounds in that petition for an honourable reconciliation with America, they would move it to be laid before the house if the ministry would not. Lord Shelburne also declared, that the most extensive operations that could be required to be carried on last year, or for the year ensuing, might be effected without employing one single foreigner; and therefore that the measure of contracting for the electoral troops was inexpedient as well as illegal.

The noble lords in opposition seemed, however, very willing to acquit the ministry of all criminal intentions, if they would but acknowledge the measure to be unconstitutional, and solicit the passing an act of indemnity; and it should seem as if lord North will be persuaded by his friends to take this necessary step to quiet the minds of those who think the measure without it would be established into a dangerous precedent.

The previous question was put at eight o'clock, and passed, on a division, 75 against 35, proxies on both sides included.

WORCESTER, January 12.

By an officer in the continental army in Canada, we are favoured with the following, viz.

By his excellency, **GUY CARLETON**, captain general and governor in chief in and over the provinces of Quebec, and the territories depending thereon, in America, vice-admiral of the same, and major-general of his majesty's forces, commanding the Northern district, &c. &c. &c.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS it has been found expedient to raise and embody a militia within this city, to cooperate with, and to assist his majesty's troops in this garrison, in the preservation of the city, and of the persons and property of his majesty's good and faithful subjects resident therein, against certain rebellious persons who have invaded this province, a number of whom have lately appeared in arms before the walls of the town: **AND WHEREAS** information has been given me, that some persons resident here have contumaciously refused to enroll their names in the militia lists, and to take up arms in conjunction with their fellow citizens for the purpose aforesaid; and that others who have enrolled their names, and had for some time carried arms in the defence and preservation of the city, have lately laid them down: And also that some persons

are busy in endeavouring to draw away and alienate the affections of his majesty's good and faithful subjects of this city from his majesty's person and government; for these reasons, and in order to rid the town of all useless, dissolvent and treacherous persons, I have thought fit to issue this proclamation. And I do hereby strictly order and enjoin all and every person and persons whatsoever, liable to serve in the militia, and residing at Quebec, who have refused or declined to enroll their names in the militia lists, and to take up arms in conjunction with his majesty's good subjects of this city, and who shall still refuse or decline so to do, as well as those who having once taken up arms have afterwards laid them down, and will not take them up again, to quit the town in four days from the date hereof, together with their wives and children, and to withdraw themselves out of the limits of the district of Quebec, before the first day of December next, under pain of being treated as rebels or spies, if thereafter they shall be found within the said limits.

And inasmuch as the persons, who in obedience to this proclamation are to quit the town and district, may have bought up a considerable quantity of the provisions brought in for the subsistence of the inhabitants of the town; and it would be imprudent to suffer those provisions to be carried out, more especially as the country abounds with necessaries of life, I do hereby further order and enjoin all and every such person and person, to deliver in forthwith to the hon. George Alsop, Esq; commissary, a true inventory or list of their provisions and stores, in order that they may be fairly and justly valued, and the full price paid to the respective proprietors before their departure.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of arms, at the Castle of St. Lewis, in the city of Quebec, this twenty-second day of November, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the sixteenth year of the reign of our sovereign lord George the Third, by the grace of God, of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, king, defender of the Faith, and so forth.

GUY CARLETON.

By his excellency's command,
H. T. CRAMAHE.

GOD save the KING.

On Monday night, about eight o'clock, a detachment, consisting of three or four hundred men, under the command of major Nolton, crossed over to Charlestown; part of them went over the mill-dam, part passed through the enemies' abbatie, on the common road from Cambridge to Charlestown. They were conducted, as it is said, by a young deserter from the Welsh fusiliers; but be that as it may, their object was to burn the houses which escaped from the great conflagration on the 17th of June; and to make prisoners a body of soldiers and carpenters who were reported to lodge in these houses. The affair was conducted with the utmost silence, prudence, regularity and spirit—the houses were set on fire as directed, and the soldiers (five in number and one woman) brought off prisoners. The regulars in the fort of bunker's-hill did not act with that regularity which those gentlemen, who labour hard to intimidate us with the superiority of red coats over brown coats, would persuade us that regulars always do; for they kept a very hot and close fire on absolutely nothing at all, that is, they fired without an object. Our people calmly executed their purpose, laughed in security, and in security returned with their captives, without a single man killed or wounded.

NEW-YORK, January 18.

Copy of a letter from general Montgomery to general Carleton, dated Holland-bouye (near Quebec) December 16, 1775.

"SIR,
Notwithstanding the personal ill treatment I have received at your hands, notwithstanding the cruelty you have shewn to the unhappy prisoners you have taken, the feelings of humanity induce me to have recourse to this expedient to save you from the destruction which hangs over your wretched garrison. Give me leave to inform you that I am well acquainted with your situation: A great extent of works, in their nature incapable of defence, manned with a motley crew of sailors, most of them our friends; of citizens who wish to see us within the walls; a few of the worst troops that call themselves soldiers; the improbability of relief, and the certain prospect of wanting every necessary of life, should your opponents confine themselves to a simple blockade, point out the absurdity of resistance; such is your situation. I am at the head of troops accustomed to success, confident of the righteousness of the cause they are engaged in, injured to danger and fatigue, and so highly incensed at your inhumanity, illiberal abuse, and the ungenerous means employed to prejudice them in the minds of the Canadians, that it is with difficulty I restrain them, till my batteries are ready, from assaulting your works, which would afford them a fair opportunity of ample vengeance, and just retaliation. Firing upon a flag of truce, hitherto unprecedented, even among savages, prevents my following the ordinary mode of conveying my sentiments. However, I will at any rate acquit my conscience. Should you persist in an unwarrantable defence, the consequences be upon your own head. Beware of destroying stores of any sort, as you did at Montreal, or in the river; if you do, by heavens there will be no mercy shewn."

PHILADELPHIA, January 22.

In **CONGRESS**, January 17, 1776.

Resolved, That the colonels of the several battalions ordered to be raised, do immediately order their officers on recruiting service, to such parts where they are best known and have the greatest probability of success.

That the recruiting officers ought to be careful to inquire not only for healthy, sound, and able bodied men, not under sixteen years of age.

That the colonels of the several battalions aforesaid appoint some place or places of rendezvous to which the recruits may be sent, and where the battalions may be quartered.

That the greatest attention ought to be paid to the behaviour of the troops in quarters, that they may give no reasonable cause of complaint.

That the quarters of the troops be daily discharged once every week.

That an allowance of ten shillings per man be made to the recruiting officers in lieu of their expenses in recruiting, exclusive of the subsistence money allowed them; and that, in case any man be enlisted contrary to foregoing regulations, the pay they may have received, and the subsistence money that may be paid for them, shall be stopped from the pay of such recruiting officers.

That the colonels of the several Pennsylvania battalions be supplied with money for the recruiting service, by the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, and disburse the same to the several recruiting officers, the colonels and other officers to be accountable for what they shall receive, and all arrears they may fall into to be stopped from their pay.

That no bought indentured servants be employed on board the fleet or in the army of the United Colonies without the consent of their masters.

Extracts from the minutes.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

The last letters from Canada bring an account of an unsuccessful attempt made to gain possession of Quebec by storm, on the 31st of December last, between the hours of two and seven in the morning.

The general, finding his cannon too light to effect a breach, and that the enemy would not hearken to terms of capitulation, formed a design of carrying the town by escalade. In this he was encouraged by the extensiveness of the works and the weakness of the garrison. When every thing was prepared, while he was waiting the opportunity of a snow storm to carry his design into execution, several of his men deserted to the enemy. His plan at first was to have attacked the Upper and Lower town at the same time, depending principally for success against the Upper town. But discovering, from the motions of the enemy, that they were apprised of his design, he altered his plan, and, having divided his small army into four detachments, ordered two to be made against the Upper town, one by col. Livingston, at the head of the Canadians, against St. John's gate, the other by capt. Brown, at the head of a small detachment, against Cape Diamond, reserving to himself and col. Arnold the two principal attacks against the Lower town.

At five o'clock, the hour appointed for the attack, the general, at the head of the New-York troops, advanced against the Lower town at Aunee de Mere. Being obliged to take a circuit, the signal for the attack was given, and the garrison armed before he reached the place; however, pressing on, he passed the first barrier, and was just opening to attempt the second, when, by the first fire from the enemy, he was unfortunately killed, together with his aid-de-camp capt. J. McPherson, capt. Cheeseman, and two or three more. This dispirited the men, that col. Campbell, on whom the command devolved, found himself under the disagreeable necessity of drawing them off.

In the mean while, colonel Arnold, at the head of about three hundred and fifty of those brave troops (who with unparalleled fatigue had penetrated Canada under his command) and capt. Lamb's company of artillery, had passed through St. Roques, and approached near a two gun battery, picketed in, without being discovered. This he attacked, and, though it was well defended for about an hour, carried it with the loss of a number of men. In this attack, colonel Arnold had the misfortune to have his leg splintered by a shot, and was obliged to be carried to the hospital. After gaining the battery, his detachment passed on to a second barrier, which they took possession of. By this time the enemy, relieved from the other attacks by our troops being drawn off, directed their whole force against this detachment, and a party, falling out from a place gate, attacked them in the rear.

These brave men sustained the force of the whole garrison for three hours, but finding themselves hemmed in, and no hopes of relief, they were obliged to yield to numbers, and the advantageous situation the garrison had over them.

No regular return has yet come to hand; but, by the advices received, we learn that our loss in killed and wounded amount to about 60, and 300 taken prisoners, who are treated very humanely.

Among the slain are capt. Hendricks and lieut. Humphreys, of the rifle men, and lieut. Cooper.

After this unfortunate repulse, the remainder of the army retired about three miles from the city, where they have posted themselves advantageously, and are continuing the blockade, waiting for reinforcements, which are now on their march to join them.

Every possible mark of distinction was shewn to the corpse of general Montgomery, who was interred at Quebec the second of January.

Published by order of congress.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

Extracts of a letter from Montreal, January 5, 1776.

"I came here last night with dispatches to general Wooster. He had just time to acquaint you, per express. That on the 30th Inst. two attacks were made by our troops on Quebec (and a feint at Cape Diamond) the one at St. Roques, by col. Arnold's detachment, consisting of about 400 men, with 60 of capt. Lamb's company of artillery, and a party of Indians; the other at Drummond's wharf, under Cape Diamond, by the New-York troops, commanded by general Montgomery, who was at their head. The attack was commenced between five and six o'clock in the morning. It is with the greatest concern I inform you, that our brave general, his aid-de-camp Mr. McPherson, and capt. Cheeseman, fell the first fire, in the glorious attempt. I was with the general's party, and near him when he was killed. Mr. McPherson behaved with spirit, and was an honour to his country—we passed the first barrier without opposition; this fatal stroke of losing our general, threw our troops into confusion, and we received orders from col. Campbell to retire with the loss of about 15 men—col. Arnold's detachment on the south side forced two barriers (out of four) and about nine o'clock they were surrounded, and under the next fifty of surrendering themselves prisoners of war."

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