

Government was so close that no news might transpire from Halifax, that though the packet arrived yesterday...

Lord George Germain's letters to governor Eden, informing him of lord Cornwallis's destination, force, &c. were intercepted and sent to the congress.

A letter from an officer at Quebec says, "We shall want no foreign troops here, the Canadians being very hearty in the cause, well attached to his majesty, and they seem very desirous to shew their zeal, by offering hundreds at a time to join our forces."

A private letter from Cork, by the Endeavour, Hawkins, who arrived on Wednesday in the river, says, that a large body of people on horseback attacked several carriages which were coming to that place with provisions for the government ships...

Letters from Lisbon, brought by the Camberwell, capt. Forbes, mention, that on the 29th of June, four ships from America arrived at that port, which had brought valuable cargoes.

While the Northumberland Indiaman was at Lisbon to repair her damages, about two months ago, it is said that no less than twenty-seven American ships came in, laden with corn, &c. they sold their cargoes, and afterwards their ships, and were loaded again on account of the Portuguese, and cleared at their custom-house for Leghorn, to avoid English cruizers.

We are informed that lord Weymouth has just received a copy of the treaty between America, France and Spain, of which the following are the leading articles:

- The Americans propose ceding Canada and Nova-Scotia to France.
West-Florida and the Illinois to Spain.
Grenada to be reserved, and Porto-Rico to be given to the Americans.
Jamaica to be delivered up to Spain.
The Americans are to build annually for France 12 sail of the line, at a reasonable price.
The ports of Philadelphia and New-York to be free ports to all the world, except Great-Britain and Ireland, unless the latter becomes an independent state.
The article of gunpowder only, that orders have been issued for already, exceeds double the quantity that was expended during the seven years war both upon the continent and at sea.

Extract of a letter from Paris, July 6.

"We hear that the court of Great-Britain have lately presented a memorial to our court, and also to that of Spain, strongly complaining of the trade which is so industriously carried on by the French and Spanish merchants with the rebellious colonies of North-America, and at the same time enquiring the reason of the great armament carrying on in both these kingdoms, supposed to be against the states of Africa, whilst the latter sit quiet and inactive as if they had nothing to fear? The answer given by both the above courts is publicly spoken to be this: That with regard to the complaints of trading with the rebels, it is a mere smuggling and illicit trade, which, notwithstanding the risk of being confiscated according to law, merchants of every maritime country will always venture and act contrary to the positive commands of the legislature; but, with regard to the armament, both France and Spain find themselves highly necessitated to send strong forces to their colonies of South-America and the West-Indies, in order to prevent a rebellion there, to which they might be induced by the seeming success of the British colonies in North-America. Feasible, however, as this answer may appear, yet it is certain, that our squadron, lately failed from Brest and Toulon, met and united themselves with a Spanish squadron near the cape of St. Vincent; and there are authentic advices, of the latest date, mentioning, that the Spanish fleet destined for Cuba was observed steering towards Jamaica.

"Since yesterday, a very strong report is prevailing here, that the Duke de Choiseul will set out for the court of Vienna, in the character of ambassador extraordinary, being charged with a commission of a most important nature to that court.

"A few days ago died, at his diocese, the bishop of Clermond: He left two millions of livres in hard cash, which he made over by will to the king."

July 20. The king has been graciously pleased to confer on general Carleton, for his distinguished courage, conduct and prudence in Canada, the dignity of knight of the bath.

His majesty has also honoured major Caldwell, who brought in the first news of raising the siege of Quebec, with the dignity of baronet.

A commission has passed the great seal, appointing Henry Straghey, Esq; secretary to his majesty, one of the commissioners for restoring peace to the colonies of North-America, and for granting pardons to those of his majesty's subjects, now in arms, who shall implore his royal clemency and favour. This commissioner has a pension allowed him of £371. sterling per annum during life; but what success can be expected from this commissioner; whereas the United Provinces have firm-

ly resolved to keep no correspondence, or hold no treaty with Great-Britain, or any individuals under her authority, unless through the grand American congress.

By the last vessels from Old France, we have undoubted accounts that the formidable fleets fitting out in the several ports of that kingdom, and also in the ports of Spain, have no other object than a general attack on the dominions of Great-Britain.—The distinguished manner in which the deputies sent over by congress have been received at these courts, leaves no room to doubt the conclusion of a treaty of alliance between the United States of America.

From the advantageous disposition of the American army, betts are now depending, viz. one thousand guineas to one hundred, that if the army under general Howe makes good their landing, they will never be able to penetrate ten miles into the country, without being totally cut off.

July 23. It is said, that at least one hundred thousand pounds of the public money have been expended this year, in circulating the political pamphlets, and papers, written for the ministry, by Macpherion, Knox, Vardeil, Dalrymple, &c. &c. commending the ministry, and abusing the Americans.

The ordnance stores shipped for America since the 15th of March 1775, we are well informed are charged to government at upwards of a million and a half sterling, in the estimate to be laid before parliament.

The cloathing of the troops in America has been so little attended to for the last twelve months, that besides being half starved for want of provisions, they have been almost naked for want of the necessary raiment.

August 5. The true reason of gen. Howe's embarking his troops before the arrival of lord Howe at Halifax, was entirely owing to the great desertion which prevailed among them. It alarmed him so much, that he thought it more advisable to set out on his expedition without waiting for his brother, than to stay and see his army flying away almost by whole companies.

A very extraordinary anxiety about the next intelligence from the army in America is discovered at St. James's; and though every person who approaches the king, clearly sees and foretels the total overthrow of the provincials, yet an uncommon uneasiness is very manifest in some countenances at court. It is whispered there, that should any misfortune happen to the troops on their landing, which might be likely to impede the future operations of the campaign, a body of twenty or thirty thousand Russians will be immediately applied for, and sent over to reinforce the army, let the step be ever so disagreeable to the court of France, or let the consequences be what they will.

Letters from Petersburg, by the Withemas, Jansson, arrived in the river on Friday, say, that it may be depended on as a fact, that the Russian fleet lately sailed for the Mediterranean, is absolutely in the pay of Great-Britain; and are to act in conjunction with our men of war against the Americans, and to endeavour to stop, France, Spain and Holland, &c. throwing in succours to them, or giving them any assistance whatever.

To the LORD MAYOR.

MY LORD,

I WAS last week on board the American privateer called the Yankey, commanded by capt. Johnson, and lately brought into this port by capt. Ross, who commanded one of the West-India sugar ships, taken by the privateer in July last; and, as an Englishman, I earnestly wish your lordship, who is so happily placed at the head of this great city (justly famed for its great humanity even to its enemies) would be pleased to go likewise or send proper persons, to see the truly shocking, and, I may say, barbarous and miserable condition of the unfortunate American prisoners, who, however criminal they may be thought to have been, are deserving of pity, and entitled to common humanity.

They are twenty-five in number; and all inhumanly shut close down, like wild beasts, in a small stinking apartment, in the hold of a sloop, about 70 tons burthen, without a breath of air, in this sultry season, but what they received through a small grating, over head, the openings in which are not more than two inches square in any part; and through which the sun beats intensely hot, all day, only two or three being permitted to come on the deck at a time; and then they are exposed in the open sun, which is reflected from the decks and water like a burning-glass.

I do not, at all, exaggerate, my lord, I speak the truth, and the resemblance that this barbarity bears to the memorable black hole, at Calcutta, as a gentleman present, on Saturday observed, strikes every one at the sight. All England ought to know that the same game is now acting upon the Thames on board this privateer, that all the world cried out against, and shuddered at the mention of in India, some years ago, as practised on captain Hollowell, and other of the king's good subjects.

The putrid steams issuing from the hold are so hot and offensive, that one cannot, without the utmost danger, breathe over it; and I should not be at all surprized, if it should cause a plague to spread. The miserable wretches below look like persons in a hot bath, panting, sweating, and fainting for want of air; and the surgeon declares, that they must all soon perish in that situation, especially as they are almost all in a sickly state with bilious disorders.

The captain and surgeon, it is true, have the liberty of the cabin, (if it deserves the name of a cabin) and make no complaints on their own account. They are both sensible well behaved young men, and can give a very good account of themselves, having no signs of fear, and being supported by a consciousness of the justice of their cause. They are men of character, of good families in New-England, and highly respected in their different occupations; but being stripped of their all, by the burning of towns, and other destructive measures of the present unnatural war, were forced to take the disagreeable method of making reprisals to maintain themselves, and their children, rather than starve.

Numbers of gentlemen, and friends of government, who were on board at the same time, will confirm the truth of this my representation, being very sensibly touched themselves at the horrid sight.

English prisoners, taken by the Americans, have been treated with the most remarkable tenderness and generosity; as numbers, who are safely returned to England, most freely confess, to the honour of our brethren in the colonies. And it is a fact, which can be well attested in London, that this very surgeon on board the privateer, after the battle of Lexington, April 19. 1775, for many days voluntarily and generously, without fee or reward, employed himself in dressing the king's wounded soldiers, who, but an hour before, would have shot him if they could have come at him, and in making a collection for their refreshment of wine, linen, money, &c. in the town where he lived. This is a real fact, of which the most ample testimony may be had.

The capture of the privateer was solely owing to the ill-judged lenity and brotherly kindness of capt. Johnson, who, not considering his English prisoners in the same light that he would Frenchmen or Spaniards, put them under no sort of confinement, but permitted them to walk the decks as freely as his own people, at all times. Taking advantage of this indulgence, the prisoners one day watching their opportunity when most of the privateer's people were below and asleep, shut down the hatches, and making all fast, had immediate possession of the vessel without using any force.

I shall conclude with saying, that though this letter is addressed to your lordship, I hope that all who may read it, and have any influence, will do all in their power to gain the necessary relief; and it is humbly apprehended, that the well-disposed, who are blessed with affluence, could not better bestow their bounty than upon those poor objects. Vegetables and ripe fruits of all kinds, with porter, &c. must be very useful, as well as the means to procure other necessaries. The privateer lies opposite to Ratcliffe-Cross, a mile and a half below the Tower, and by asking for capt. Johnson admittance may be obtained.

HUMANITAS.

We have been informed, since the receipt of the above letter, that the crew of the American privateer the Yankey, were yesterday morning, at half past three o'clock, conveyed on board a vessel, and carried down the river to be secured in Dover-Castle.

Annapolis, October 16, 1776. THE CONVENTION of this province having thought proper to pass a resolve, that no bonds in the LOAN-OFFICE be put in suit for non-payment of interest before the 1st day of January next, those in arrears are requested to take notice, that no further indulgence will be given. JOHN CLAPHAM, WILLIAM EDDIS.

To be sold, on Saturday the 21st day of December, 1776.

NEAR 400 acres of valuable land, lying in the upper part of Anne-Arundel county, joining the plantation where I formerly lived: This land is exceedingly well adapted to corn, wheat, rye, and fine tobacco. There are also 140 acres of fine meadow ground, equal to any in this province, six acres of which are cleared, well set with timothy grass, under a good fence, and now rents for 211. a year. There is a good orchard, and ground enough cleared to make 200 barrels of corn the ensuing summer. It is situated in a good neighbourhood, is about 22 miles from Elkridge landing, about 15 miles from Ellicott's mills, and about 23 from Biadensburg: There is a fine and extensive range. Any person inclinable to purchase, may view the land before the day of sale, by applying to capt. Benjamin Warfield, who lives near it. The terms will be made known on the day of sale, by Nicholas Dorsey, son of Joshua, on Elkridge, or by the subscriber, JOHN WAYMAN.

Will be exposed to sale to the highest bidder, for ready money, on the 10th day of December next, agreeable to the last will and testament of John Young, deceased.

ONE hundred acres of land, lying in Talbot county, in Miles-River Neck, near the ferry, with a large good dwelling-house, with all other houses suitable to it, with two bearing orchards thereon. The sale to be on the premises. Likewise some stock and household furniture.

For further particulars enquire of James Benson, near the said land. MARY YOUNG, Executrix.

To be sold at public sale, on Tuesday the 10th day of December next (if fair, if not, the next fair day) at the dwelling-house of the late Mr. Benjamin Harrison, at West-River, for bills of exchange, sterling cash, or current money, at an exchange to be agreed upon on the day of sale.

A PARCEL of healthy NEGROES, consisting of 20 men, women and children, among whom are two young fellows who are good sawyers.—All persons indebted to the estate of Benjamin Harrison are desired to make immediate payment; and those who have claims are desired to make them known to SAM. HARRISON, jun. } Executors.

Prince-George's county, November 10, 1776. STRAYED or stolen from the subscriber, living near Snowdens iron-works, a dark bay mare, almost black, quarter blooded, about fourteen hands high, with a white spot on her withers about as big as a man's hand; she trots and gallops and has been lately docked; she has a small tail, low neck, her mane hangs each side on her neck; she is low in flesh, and suckled a colt when taken away; she has no perceptible brand; Any person who apprehends the rogue and secures the mare, so that the owner may get her again, shall receive five pounds reward; if strayed, twenty shillings, paid by THOMAS GASSAWAY WATKINS.