

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1777.

FISH-KILL, October 23. In our last, we observed, that the British vessels proceeded up the river, past this place. As they went along they burnt a few mills, houses and boats. On Friday they reached Esopus, and there landed a number of men, who marched up to the principal town of Kingston, about two miles from the river, and immediately set it on fire; the conflagration spread in a few minutes, and in a short time that great and wealthy town was reduced to ashes, one of the principal towns in this state, for size, extent and wealth, is reduced to a heap of rubbish, and the happy inhabitants (who are chiefly of Dutch descent) obliged to seek for shelter among strangers, and those who lately possessed elegant and convenient dwellings, obliged to take up with such huts as they could find to defend them from the cold blasts or approaching winter. We learn that the inhabitants saved but little of their movable property; but some lost the greater part of their temporal all. This fall the enemy took time to plunder, being told that governor Clinton was at hand with 1500 men, but unluckily not near as to save the town. They burnt several vessels and houses at the landing, then scamped off precipitately on board their vessels. Next day they burnt several houses at Rhinebeck-Flats, and proceeded as far as Livingston's Manor, where they burnt a few more: our troops are now up with them: it is hoped they will be able to put a stop to these depredations. Britain, how ever, though called to account for these and such like depredations, the horrid guilt, of these and such like depredations, by these.

BALTIMORE, November 11. General return of his Britannic majesty's forces, under lieutenant general Burgoyne, which surrendered to the American army, commanded by major general Gates, at Saratoga, the 17th October, 1777.

Table with columns: British, German, Canadian, and other military units and counts.

By his excellency's command, ROBERT HARRISON, sec. Mr. PURDIE, and the other printers of newspapers in the State of VIRGINIA, are desired to publish the following advertisement.

AT a general court-martial held at Parkimony, in Pennsylvania, by order of his excellency general Washington, on the 7th of October, 1777, and by adjournment, on the 10th of the same month, GOODRICH CRUMP, of the state of Virginia, a captain in the first Virginia regiment, charged with cowardice, was tried, found guilty of that crime in the action of the 4th of October, at German-Town, and sentenced therefor to be cashiered, and to have his name, place of abode, and punishment, published in the newspapers in and about the camp, and in the newspapers of the particular state he came from, or in which he usually resides; after which it should be deemed scandalous for any officer to associate with him. This sentence was approved by his excellency the commander in chief; and, in pursuance thereof, is transmitted to the printers for publication.

PHILADELPHIA, November 5. Copy of a letter from his excellency lieutenant general Burgoyne to his excellency Sir William Howe, K. B. brought by lieutenant Valancy of the 63d regiment. Albany, Oct. 20, 1777. S I R, IN conformity to my orders, to proceed by the most vigorous exertions to Albany, I passed the Hudson's river at Saratoga on the 13th of September. No exertions have been left

to furnish one pair of good strong shoes and one pair of good white yarn stockings, or a greater number if possible, and to deliver them to the sheriff of their county, who shall pay for each pair of shoes and for each pair of stockings not exceeding twenty-five shillings a common money, according to quality.

By order, J. BURGOYNE, cl. ho. del. By the SENATE, November 9, 1777. Read and assented to. By order, A. C. HANSON, cl. sen.

Extra of a letter, dated camp, White-Marsh, November 10, 1777. "I am just returned from head-quarters, where I was informed of the following important intelligence: A gentleman of the name of Foster, arrived at the above place the evening before, who left London on the 26th of June, sailed from Bourdeaux, and landed in New-England; he is a man of integrity and veracity, and intimately acquainted with some of the general's household. He informs, that no more troops are to be sent to America this year; that the people of England have the most sanguine hopes and unbounded confidence, that the rebels will be effectually subdued this campaign; that matters of the utmost consequence are expected, particularly from Burgoyne; that the merchants are so well convinced of the subjugation of America, that immense cargoes of good have been sent out to New-York; that commodore Weeks had captured 52 of the Jamaica fleet, and carried them to Rhode-Island, which were demanded to be given up by the British court, and peremptorily refused; in consequence of which, lord Stormont left the court of Versailles without taking leave. — his portends something.

Another vigorous attempt has been made upon the forts, which ended in much damaging the mortar, a 64, and sinking two floating batteries. — A reinforcement hourly expected from Gates; as soon as they arrive, it is said a movement of consequence will be made. Fourteen prisoners were yesterday taken by sixteen of our light horse, who confirm the accounts of the inhabitants of Philadelphia being in the greatest want of provisions; they say that flour scarcely carable sells for twenty pounds, hard cash, per barrel. — A heavy cannonade commenced this morning, which still continues; as soon as the event is known, you shall have it."

PROCLAMATION. By his Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq; General and commander in chief of the forces of the United States of America.

WHEREAS sundry soldiers belonging to the armies of the said States have deserted from the same; these are to make known to all those, who have to offend, and who shall return to their respective corps, or surrender themselves to the officers appointed to receive recruits and deserters in their several States, or to any continental commissioned officer, before the first day of January next, that they shall obtain a full and free pardon. — And I do further declare, to all such obstinate offenders as do not avail themselves of the indulgence hereby offered, that they may depend, when apprehended, on being prosecuted with the utmost rigour, and suffering the punishment justly due to crimes of such enormity. Lest the hope of escaping punishment, by remaining undiscovered, should tempt any to reject the terms now held out to them, they may be assured, that the most effectual measures will be pursued in every State for apprehending and bringing them to a speedy trial. Given under my hand, at head quarters, this 24th day of October, Anno domini, 1777.

G. WASHINGTON. By his Excellency's command, ROBERT HARRISON, sec.

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TIMOTHY PICKERING, adj. gen. Head-quarters, Oct. 24, 1777.

From the Pennsylvania Ledger of November 6, printed at Philadelphia by James Humphreys, jun.

united. The army under my command has fought twice against great superiority of numbers. The first action was on the 19th of September, when, after four hours sharp conflict, we remained masters of the field of battle; the 2d action (on the 7th of October, was not so successful, and ended with a storm upon two parts of our entrenchments, the one defended by lieutenant-col. Brey-men, who was killed upon the spot, and the post was lost, the other defended by lord Balcarras at the head of the British light infantry, who repulsed the enemy with great loss. The army afterwards made good their retreat to the heights of Saratoga, unable to proceed further, the enemy having possession of all the fords and the passes on the east side of Hudson's river.

The army there waited the chance of events, and offered themselves to the mercy of the enemy till the 13th instant, when only three days provision at short allowance remained. At that time the last hope of timely assistance being exhausted, my numbers reduced by past actions to 3500 fighting men, of which about 1900 alone were British, invested by the enemy's troops to the amount of 16000 men, I was induced by the general concurrence of advice of the generals, field officers, and captains commanding corps, to open a treaty with major gen. Gates. Your excellency will observe by the papers transmitted herewith, the disagreeable prospect that attended the first overtures. The army determined to die to a man rather than submit to terms repugnant to national and personal honour. I trust you will think the treaty enclosed consistent with both. I am, with the greatest respect and attachment, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant, J. BURGOYNE.

The first overtures alluded to in the above letter. 1st. Gen. Burgoyne's army being exceedingly reduced by repeated defeats, by desertion, sickness, &c. — their provisions exhausted, their military stores, tents and baggage taken or destroyed, their retreat cut off and their camp invested; they can only be allowed to surrender prisoners of war.

Answer. Lieut. gen. Burgoyne's army, however reduced, will never admit that their retreat is cut off, while they have arms in their hands.

2d. The officers and soldiers may keep the baggage belonging to them. The generals of the United States never permit individuals to be pillaged.

3d. The troops under his excellency gen. Burgoyne will be conducted by the most convenient route to New-England, marching by easy marches, and sufficiently provided for by the war office.

Answer. The officers will be admitted on parole, may wear their side arms, and will be treated with the liberality customary in Europe, so long as they, by proper behaviour, continue to deserve it; but those who are apprehended having broken their parole, (as some British officers have done) must expect to be confined.

Answer. There being no officer in this army under, or capable of being under the description of breaking parole, this article needs no answer.

5th. All public stores, artillery, arms, ammunition, carriages, horses, &c. &c. must be delivered to commissaries appointed to receive them.

Answer. All public stores may be delivered, arms excepted. 6th. These terms being agreed to and signed, the troops under his excellency gen. Burgoyne's command may be drawn up to their encampment, where they will be ordered to ground their arms, and may be thereupon marched to the river, from whence they passed over in their way towards Bennington.

Answer. This article is inadmissible in any extremity; sooner than this army will consent to ground their arms in their encampment, they will rush on the enemy, determined to take no quarter.

Signed, HORATIO GATES. Camp at Saratoga, October 14, 1777.

Of the choice of WATER for producing SALT.

I believe, from slight observations of my own, though indeed rather from what I am assured by others is the fact appearing from experience, that the water of the creeks is saltier than that of the rivers or bay into which it is discharged: This is meant of creeks that receive but little of spring or run water, of which there are many, especially on the eastern shore. The marshy and other low grounds, on the sides and heads of creeks, receive full tides of salt water; a part of which is left by the ebb in holes or hollows, where it is evaporated to a strong brine, till the next overflowing of the tide. The grafs also retains its share of salt received from these tides; when the water, being carried off by the sun and air, leaves the salt sticking to the grafs: This salt appears like frost on the shoes of those who walk on salt marshes. The evaporation in these creeks, from the surface alone, is as the evaporation of the rivers or bay from their surface; but besides the salt gained by evaporation of the water from the surface, the creeks are enriched with the strong brine produced as above, and with the salt clinging to the grafs and rubbish on the overflowed low grounds and marshes; and they return the leis of this brine and salts to the rivers, as their tide of current is gentle. The rapidity of the ebb in the rivers and bay is greater than that of their floods, because of the vast addition of water, fresh from inland, which forms a weighty and irresistible column, that, keeping the course of the channel, edges aside the sea water brought up by the flood, and leaves it to a more languid retreat along the shore. The fresh water thus rushing down the bay with the ebb, mixes with the salts from the sea, chiefly upon the turn of the tides, when the opposition of the currents to each other must jumble and blend those waters intimately together, so that they do not separate again otherwise than by exhalation. Upon a great rain, the rivers and bay have their waters, near the surface, quite fresh: And once in rowing presently after a rain, will sometimes show the depth of the fresh water as it floats on the salt water: every dip and stroke of the oar showing the clear salt water under the sheet of fresh water; water that is on top. Pour spirit gently on water in a bowl, it will then float so that you may burn it: Stir them well together, the spirit and water will from thence remain mixed. So the sheet of fresh water from the land every where spreads on the rivers. But the conflict of the tides, on their shifting, soon blends the water from the land and that from the sea, so that you can perceive no consider-

Vertical text on the left margin containing various notices and advertisements.