

honour and our advantage. An exemption from taxation is the best security a man can receive, because he becomes the holder of that security himself. Our public and private interest is likewise promoted, because in raising a revenue by this means, the country is not burthened with new debts, and consequently our future taxes will be less, and the value of our independence encreased.

This plan will neither oppose or interfere with any other. Those who chuse to subscribe to the loan already proposed by the honourable congress, may nevertheless be inclined to, promote an honourary one. But we are persuaded there are thousands of our fellow-citizens, whom a plan of this kind may suit which no other will, and we think that every eligible method ought now to be attempted, which may enable us to put a stop to the emissions.

Could a prompt payment of three years taxes be generally made throughout the United States, the benefits therefrom would be great and numerous. First, The emissions would be stoppt, the quantity of money reduced, and remainder would have the same value as the whole.

Secondly, The prices of every article would naturally be lowered.

Thirdly, The enemy seeing we were provided with a three years supplies already in hand, would be beaten from that frivolous hope they have so long dwelt upon namely—that of our failing from a want of means. We ourselves should be relieved from a variety of uneasy apprehensions, respecting the state of our currency, and the renewed life which such a measure would inspire, together with the amity and friendship which such a universal content would recreate, would give us the appearance of a new people, and fix us on a new foundation, both of strength and concord.

Our fellow-citizens will please to accept this plan and proposal from us, as naturally connected with the principal object of our appointment, that of redeeming and supporting the credit of our currency.

Published by order of the committee, WILLIAM HENRY, chairman, Committee-room, July 8, 1779.

FISH-KILL, July 15.

Extra of a letter from a gentleman of undoubted veracity at the Southward.

"The enemy before Charlestown have escaped to their shipping.—Letters from Ireland, and English papers, confirm an Irish revolt of 10000 men in the north, and about 20000 men in the other provinces, under Sir Charles O'Neil, the honourable Charles Conolly, and the earl of Clanrickard. The count d'Estaing is reinforced, his fleet consists of twenty-two men of war of the line, and twenty-four frigates.—The islands of Jersey and Guernsey are taken by the French.—Gibraltar is besieged by the Spaniards, and Port Mahon by a French Squadron."

ANNAPOLIS, June 23.

The General Assembly of this state, which was to have met here on Thursday the 13th instant, agreeable to the governor's proclamation, did not sit till yesterday, when a sufficient number of members met and then proceeded to business.

By a gentleman just arrived from France we learn, That Monsieur le Motte Piquette, with six ships of the line, some frigates and transports, with a number of troops, bound to Martinico, spoke on the coast of Portugal two French men of war, from the Straights to old France, by whom he was informed of their having taken a British ship of forty guns, called the Montreal, which they sent into Malaga.—That the Fox frigate, taken by the French from the English, was a little while since, by the carelessness of the pilot, entirely lost in the mouth of the river Villaine, previous to her loss she had made several captures on the English.—That the French would have thirty-two sail of the line besides frigates, well manned and equipped, ready for channel service in the month of May.—That it was daily expected in France the Spaniards would make their declaration in favour of America, in which case the fleets of the two nations, making seventy-two sail of the line besides frigates, would be combined, under the command of count d'Orville, to act in the channel.—That admiral Hardey, lately appointed to the command of the British fleet, died in April last; who would succeed him was not known.—That the Bucksin, captain Johns, and the General Mercer, captain Robinson, were both arrived at Bourdeaux, and also the —, capt Lunn, at Morlaix.

Extra of a letter from St. Eustatia, June 24, 1779.

"The two fleets are both in motion; admiral Byron and four other admirals, with twenty-two ships of the line and a swarm of frigates, were at St. Kitts last week, where the merchantmen had also assembled, the whole fleet amounting to 301 sail. Byron gave out that he intended to convey them as far as Bermudas, his fleet is superior to that of the French, and had blocked them up for many weeks before; but while he was exhibiting this grand show to the people of St. Kitts, d'Estaing came out and landed 2000 troops on St. Vincent. The inhabitants held out for 48 hours, and would not have given up for 48 hours more, had not the Caribs come down on the back of them and murdered without shewing any quarter, till restrained by the French officers. The French ships have gone back to Martinico, leaving their troops to fortify St. Vincent. There is now no certain news of Byron's fleet, and the taking of St. Vincent is not the worst news for government, for d'Estaing being apprised of Byron's coming with his fleet to relieve it, before it was given up, and leaving his merchantmen, 267 sail, with a small convoy, has sent several ships of the line to wait in a certain latitude to destroy them. This being discovered by some persons trading to Martinico, and first told here, has a wonderful effect on the minds of those gentlemen here that have property in them; and

those that are friends to government, which has set are not scarce here."

From the Pennsylvania Packet of last Tuesday. Head-Quarters, New Windsor, July 16, 1779. Half after 9 o'clock, a. m.

SIR, I HAVE the pleasure to transmit your excellency the enclosed copy of a letter from brigadier-general Wayne, which this moment came to hand. I congratulate congress upon our success, and what makes it still more agreeable, from the report of captain Fishbourn, who brought me general Wayne's letter, the post was gained but with very inconsiderable loss on our part. As soon as I receive a particular account of the affair, I shall transmit it.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, Your excellency's most obedient servant,

G. WASHINGTON. P. S. General Wayne received a slight wound in the head with a musket-ball, but it did not prevent him from going on with the troops. His excellency JOHN JAY, Esq;

Stoney-Point, July 16, 1779, 2 o'clock, a. m.

DEAR GENERAL, The fort and garrison with colonel Johnston are ours. Our officers and men behaved like men who are determined to be free. Yours, most sincerely, ANTHONY WAYNE.

General WASHINGTON. Published by order of congress, CHARLES THOMSON, secr.

Extra of a letter from major-general Greene.

"I have the pleasure to congratulate you upon our success last evening.

"General Wayne with the light-infantry surprised the garrison at Stony-Point and took the whole prisoners. The particulars we have not yet; but it is not less than five hundred men. Our troops behaved to a charm, marching in the face of a heavy fire without firing a gun. We lost only four privates. General Wayne got a slight wound on the side of his face.

"I have not time to add, being called upon to attend to the orders of the general.

"It is more than probable this event will lead to a serious dispute for King's-Ferry."

Extra of a letter from New-Windsor, July 16.

"I wrote you by an express a few hours ago, of general Wayne's success this morning, in surprising the British garrison at Stony-Point, and making them all prisoners, consisting of 500 men, with a number of cannon, a quantity of baggage, stores, &c. Our party consisted of 1200 light-infantry, drawn from the whole army on both sides the river. General Wayne was slightly wounded in the head, but he, his officers and men, have acquired the greatest honour.

"Lieut. James Gibbons, of the 6th Pennsylvania regiment a native of our city, commanded the advance, and first mounted their works. Colonel Fleury, and in short all the officers, distinguished themselves, and vied with each other to acquire glory to our arms.

"A few of the enemy were bayoneted—not a gun fired on our side, but the garrison was completely surprized, and not a man escaped.

"We turned their cannon on their shipping, who immediately made sail down the river.

"They have a garrison yet in their works on the east side the river, and we are in motion down towards them."

Extra of a letter from a captain in general Lincoln's army, dated camp at Summer's Plantation, Stone, June 20, 1779.

"Last night general Lincoln ordered the greatest part of his army to march towards Stono-Ferry, and this morning about half past 7 o'clock they attacked the enemy's lines at about forty yards distance, and continued till near 9 o'clock, when the general ordered a retreat to be made. I suppose we had upwards of 2000 men, and the enemy about 1200, but as their lines were defended by abatis and picquets, it prevented our men from forcing them, which perhaps was the occasion of the retreat. However we certainly have killed and wounded many of them; for there was a whole picquet consisting of 3 officers and 40 men almost destroyed by our infantry. Three deserters came in to us from out of the lines as soon as the engagement began. Colonel Johnson, of the North-Carolina loyalists, is mortally wounded."

Extra of a letter from an officer in general Lincoln's army, of the same date.

"Last night at 12 o'clock our army marched to attack the enemy. The cannonade began at half past 7, and lasted till near a quarter past 9 o'clock; the firing very heavy for three quarters of an hour. The enemy sallied upon colonel Henderson's light infantry, who ordered to charge with bayonets, when they ran, leaving 27 killed, and a colonel Johnson; but they were too strongly posted to force their works. Our people behaved gallantly, and approached within 25 yards of their redoubts; it is said two of them were entered, but we were obliged to retreat. The enemy's loss must be considerable; ours is a few killed and about 80 wounded. The retreat was conducted with good order. It will reflect honour upon our troops, and will be of service in convincing the enemy that we have spirit and bravery, as well as showing to our own people that they are not invincible."

Extra of a letter from an officer of rank, in South-Carolina, June 22, 1779.

"General Lincoln having received such intelligence of the intention, strength, and position of the enemy, as rendered it advisable to attack them at Stono-Ferry, did so on the 20th instant, about 7 o'clock in the morning, with great vigour. They were advantageously posted, and covered by three strong redoubts, and a well constructed abatis, supported by several pieces of artillery. The picquet having been driven in the at-

tack began on the right, which was instantly continued through the line. A large body of highlanders filled out on our left, but were soon driven, with considerable slaughter, into their redoubts. The action continued, without intermission, 15 minutes, when the general could not draw the enemy out of these lines, (which were so strongly constructed, that our light field-pieces could make no impression upon them) as the force of the enemy was much greater than had been represented, and as they had during the engagement obtained a large reinforcement, from John's Island, our troops were withdrawn from the lines, and all our artillery and wounded brought off. Our loss is not considerable. Many of the wounded are already recovering, and most of the rest (their wounds being slight) it is judged, will soon recover. The enemy's loss is supposed to be much greater, as a number of their dead were reckoned on the ground; and it was observed that their field-pieces were several times left without a man to work them. Upon the whole, though we had not the wished for success, our people are convinced that they would have beaten the enemy, if they had quitted their lines. It is probable from the enemy's sticking close to them, that they were of the same opinion. Our men are in high spirits, and wish for a fair trial, by equal numbers, in the open field.

June 23. Two small privateers from St. Augustine went into Santee river Sat. Monday, on a plundering scheme. The militia guard stationed there, killed the captain and took one of the privateers, the lieutenant of both and the crew of one, consisting of ten men, just brought to town, and retook 16 negroes, the other privateer made her escape. Our people received no hurt."

From a London paper of March 20.

The following is a part of an address sent by the Manchester people last week to their representatives, which (in the opinion of a correspondent) totally absolves them from the promise made of offering up lives and fortunes in the support of, &c.

"We need not remind you, that our American commerce is no more. The African trade is almost annihilated. The lots even of Dominica will be, *fit bare*, because the free port there supplied us with the materials of our most valuable goods. Both in our exports of wrought manufactures, and imports of raw materials, we are essentially affected by the high price of insurance, which amounts nearly to a loss of our Mediterranean trade. The precarious state of the islands makes the West-Indian commerce at least doubtful. And, in this dearth of foreign traffic, the want of money in common circulation, and the advanced rates of interest occasioned by the demands of government, have cast a gloom over that home trade which is now our chief support! In this situation, without fresh discouragements, we shall be obliged to discharge multitudes of manufacturers. On whom the maintenance of these poor men must fall, we pronounce not; but we presume that *landed gentlemen*, taxed as they are, and taxed as they are likely to be, have much to apprehend from the local increase of rates, attended with this certain consequence, that the value of their estates must sink, as trade falls. Your parliamentary abilities, Sir, have, till this distressful period, been happily employed in promoting the interest of many prosperous communities through a great district abounding in manufactures, and producing scenes of affluence and comfort. We are now reduced to the melancholy necessity of requesting your aid, to save, if possible, the wreck of our trade, and many thousands of your constituents, from poverty and despair."

ANNAPOLIS, July 23, 1779. THE COMMITTEE OF GRIEVANCES and COURTS OF JUSTICE will sit to do business in the committee-room, every day, from half past two till four in the afternoon, during the recess of the general assembly.

Signed by order of the committee, PARDALD GOLDER, clerk.

ANNAPOLIS, July 23, 1779. IMPORTED in the brig Tom Johnson, captain M'Kirdy, from Nantes, and to be SOLD, on Saturday the 31st instant, at the store of Wallace and Davidson,

CARGO of GOODS, consisting of the following articles: Linens, woollens, calicoes, linen and silk handkerchiefs, sail-cloth, cordage, chandlery, window-glass, earthen and glass ware, iron ware, lead and shot, stationary hats, Madeira wine, claret, rum, brandy, loaf sugar, pepper, nutmegs, cinnamon, cloves, mace, alum, copperas, fig-blues, men and womens shoes, china, grindstones, and salt.

CAME to the plantation of RICHARD BENNETT HALL, in Prince-George's county, some time in May, a BAY MARE, branded S C. The owner may have her again, by moving property and paying charges.

ANNAPOLIS, July 15, 1779. STRAYD or STOLEN from the subscriber, on the 7th instant,

A LARGE bright bay GELDING, about 14 1/2 hands high, branded on the near buttock B. G. I here are some saddle marks; he has two white feet, is shod all round, trots very hard, and has a switch tail. Whoever takes up said horse, and brings him, or secures him; so that the owner may get him again, shall receive, if taken within this state, fifty dollars, and if out of the state, one hundred dollars; and all reasonable charges, paid by

JOSEPH SELBY.

ANNAPOLIS, July 13, 1779. To be SOLD, by the subscriber,

TWO strong able HORSES, that will answer for the saddle or gear.

WILLIAM WILKINS.