

to just, before we are generous. Let us first procure reparation of their damages, and payment of their debts for the subjects of this state from their enemies. When this shall be done, should the Senator, and those of his party, be smitten with a Quixotic madness, to establish their characters for generosity, why let them, for that purpose, lavish upon those enemies as much of their private fortunes as they please, but let them beware how they intermeddle with the property and possessions of the public; of these they have no right to dispose. They might, it is true, among those, who, in defence of their country, have lost their estates, their health, and their limbs, or among the helpless widows, and children of those, who have lost their lives, find objects enough for the exercise of the most unbounded benevolence. But these, alas! will not have the merit of being British, nor will they be entitled to notice from having suffered in the cause of injustice and oppression, or from their connection with, and relation to, an arbitrary, tyrannical government, which, by having trampled under feet the rights of human nature, is at length reduced to the very precipice of ruin.

There are persons among us, who appear as sensible to the calamities of our country, as if they were made of stocks and of bones; tell them of our fellow-citizens being insulted and plundered; of women and children reduced from ease and affluence, to poverty and distress, driven from their own happy abodes, without food and without clothing; tell them of the inhuman barbarities and butcheries practised on some of our countrymen, and the sufferings which others have endured in British guardships and galls; they will hear you with features as unmoved, as if they were carved out of inanimate marble: but touch upon the subject of seizing the property of British subjects, of compelling them to pay a just debt, which they owe to us, and which we have incurred for the very purpose of repelling and preventing those injuries, how suddenly is the scene changed! Their stoicism vanishes in a moment; they are all over tremblingly alive, and seem to agonize at every pore, while justice, humanity, and generosity, are carried about with such rapidity, that you would be almost tempted to believe they knew no other words in our language! Accused be that humanity, which can find no other objects of its exertion, but the subjects of Great-Britain and may eternal infancy await those, whose feelings are perpetually at variance with the interest of the public, and the obligations which they owe to their country.

AN INDEPENDENT WHIG.

Baltimore, March 30, 1780.

MARTINICO, January 23.

FOR fear of erring from the truth, we have deferred hitherto giving any account of the enemy sustained in the bay of Fort-Royal. According to all the reports we have received from St. Lucia it appears, that the squadron of vice-admiral Parker has been considerably damaged, and that two of his vessels, which are said to be the Elizabeth and Conqueror, have suffered much in their hulls and in their rigging, as to the number of their killed and wounded, those who say the least make it amount to an hundred. Among the killed are two lieutenants, the second captain of the Elizabeth, and the commander of the conqueror, who was buried at St. Lucia. One cannot forbear to admire the conduct of our chef d'escadre, and of the captain of the Vengeur and Kellecht, who saved the fleet of merchantmen, and did immense damage to the fleet of the enemy of 16 sail of the line, without receiving any themselves. This action may be compared to those which have immortalised our greatest seamen. The English themselves have formed the highest opinion of M. de la Motte Piquet, and give him the epithet of gallant, which in their language comprises all the eulogiums of true bravery.

It is reported that a packet-boat has lately arrived at Barbados, in a short passage from England, with an account that 16 sail of the line were soon to sail from France for this island; that the count de Guichen had fallen in with an English squadron, admiral Rodney, and his convoy for the West Indies, had beat the admiral, and taken or drove on shore most of the merchantmen; and that an English fleet, bound with stores for Gibraltar, had fallen in with the Spanish admiral Don Barcelo, who guarded the entrance of the Straights, who obliged the men of war to retreat, and captured the whole convoy. We wait, however, for a confirmation of this good news.

The English squadron under the orders of admiral Parker cruizes in two divisions, one to the north, the other to the south of this island. Last Sunday we saw eight English ships

of the line; at two o'clock the nearest of them tacked and chased a brigantine that was coming into our road. After exchanging some shot with our batteries, without any effect on either side, the brigantine was captured by the English man of war. Her crew got safe on shore, and inform that she was a prize of M. de la Motte Piquet, laden with fish. The same evening this division of the enemy passed before our road, and the next morning they were out of sight.

The first instant arrived here a vessel from Marseilles, which left that place on the 8th of November. Before she passed the Straights mouth, she was stopped by the Spanish Squadron for two days. The captain was informed, that the siege of Gibraltar was carried on with vigour; and that the English fire upon the Spaniards was without effect; he likewise was told, that three ships of the count d'Estaing's Squadron were arrived at Cadiz; that Don Barcelo had intercepted an English fleet of store ships, of 42 sail, with succours for the garrison, and that not one escaped, except a single frigate, which convoyed the fleet, and through all the fire of the Spaniards got safe into Gibraltar.

B O S T O N, March 9.

By captain Somes who arrived here last Saturday in 26 days from Martinico, we learn, that a vessel arrived there before he sailed from the Straights which she left about the 12th of December, and brought an account that the Spaniards were daily advancing on the attack of Gibraltar, and that a flying squadron of our Spanish allies came across a fleet of 42 sail of British transports with provisions, under convoy of a frigate, bound from England for Gibraltar, and that the whole fleet, except the convoy, were taken.

March 13. Last Thursday, captain Bartlett, in a letter of marque brig from Cadiz, arrived here after a passage of ninety days.—He informs, that about four weeks ago he fell in with and took a brig, from New-York, bound to the West-Indies, which may be hourly expected.

The Hoop Right Hand, Gabriel suter master, belonging to Joseph Packwood of New London, lately arrived at Portsmouth; the master says he sailed from Point Peter, Guadalupe, on the 14th of January, in company with the brig Ranger, captain Howard, for New-London, and the Hoop Maria, captain Dodge, for this port; on his passage he met with very hard gales from the northward and westward, which obliged him to keep so far to the eastward, and having sprung his main boom, was very glad to get into the first port.

Tuesday last arrived here, a flag from Bermudas, which brought all the prisoners belonging to these states, amounting to upwards of 30. By this conveyance we learn, that one of Goodrich's cruizers had met at sea, in distress, a large storeship, one of the fleet that sailed from New-York, which had on board one quarter part of the cannon, powder, and ordnance stores belonging to this whole embarkation, and 82 officers and soldiers, of the artillery. The ship was dismantled and otherwise so shattered in the storm that overtook admiral Arbuthnot and his fleet soon after they left New-York, that there was no hope of her reaching any port. Goodrich's vessel accordingly took out the men, and carried them to Bermudas; the ship was set on fire and blew up. These men, thus saved from destruction gave the same account at Bermudas that we had from the officers brought into this port some time past, by the Blaze Cattle; that admiral Arbuthnot's fleet were totally dispersed, in the uncommon severe gales they met with; that probably many of them have perished; of the 1300 horse embarked at New-York, and all carried upon deck, not one is supposed to be saved. It was conjectured that many of them might have made Bermudas, but none had arrived there the beginning of February; nor have we any account of their arrival in any port, though they left Sandy-Hook on the 26th of December. Should all the damage be done to this fleet of the enemy, consisting, according to their own account, of 10,000 of their best men, with proportionable stores, and all the loss be sustained by them, which there is now the strongest reason to believe, the blow must be great indeed, and beyond any they have received during the war, except the capitulation of Burgoyne and his whole army. However this may be, it is now not to be doubted that this fleet has been torn and scattered in such a manner, as to render the collection of it in season, and so as to answer the purpose of this grand embarkation, absolutely impracticable. All accounts agree that the transports had not more, in general, than 14 days provision; a terrible circumstance in the situation to which most, if not all of them, must have been reduced. The winter has been uncommonly severe at Bermudas.

PHILADELPHIA, March 23.

Saturday last the honourable general assembly of this commonwealth, adjourned till the 10th day of May next.

By advices from South-Carolina we learn, that on the 7th instant Clinton with his army was on James Island and at Stono Ferry; that the enemy on their passage from New-York, lost all their cavalry; that they also acknowledge the loss of the Dehance, a 64 gun ship, which foundered at sea, and of three transports, the men of which and of the 64 are pretended to have been saved, and of one transport with Russian troops, of which no accounts had been received.

By a gentleman arrived in this city we learn, the account under Boston head, of March 9th, respecting the British convoy bound to Gibraltar being taken by the Spaniards, is to be depended on; for that he saw 17 of the transports in Cadiz bay before he left that, in November last, as also a great number of the troops.

I N C O N G R E S S, March 10, 1780.

Resolved, That no allowance of pay or rations or subsistence ought to be made to any person after he ceases to be in office.

That if any issuer deliver out public stores to such persons, without being authorized by resolution of congress, the same ought to be charged to his account.

Extra from the minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

The respective deputies and assistants in the issuing department, are hereby directed to pay strict attention to the above resolve.

The printers in the different states are desired to publish the above.

CHARLES STEWART,

Comptroller general of issues.

L A W S of MARYLAND, passed November session, 1779, may be had at the printing-office.

Somerlet county, April 4, 1780.

N O T I C E is hereby given, that I intend to petition the next general assembly, for a road to lead from the main road leading from Princess-Anne to the lower ferry, to the plantation whereon David Megarth formerly lived, and now in the possession of *John Jones* Esq. **M A R Y W A U G A M A N.**

O V I D,

A beautiful, high formed well bred horse, sixteen hands high, raised by William Fitzough, Esq; (of Marimon) and from whom he was lately purchased,

S T A N D S this season at my plantation near Piccawagon church, and will cover mares at one hundred pounds the season, it paid by the first of August, it cost 300lb. tob. & co must be paid in lieu thereof by the first of January. Ovid was got by Aristotle, as high a bred horse as any in America, his dam by colonel Walker's old Othello, his grand dam by the famed and high bred imported horse Monkey, well known for his activity and goodnes on the turf, his great grand dam by the late secretary Carter's imported horse Pompy. I have good pasture gratis for those who live at a distance, and great care shall be taken of all mares left, but will not be answerable for escapes or other accidents.

W I L L I A M C O U R T S.

Caroline county, Maryland, March 22, 1780.

T H I S day was committed to my custody a negro man named **B E N**; he formerly belonged to a certain Philip Wilson, of Philadelphia. His present master is desired to come, pay charges, and take him away.

L O R D S O H E N N Y D O W N E S, sheriff.

N O T I C E is hereby given, that by an act of assembly made and passed at a session of assembly of the state of Maryland, begun and held at the city of Annapolis, on the 8th day of November, 1779, the bills of credit, dated January 1, 1767, emitted and made current by an act of assembly, passed November session, 1766, are directed to be brought in and deposited with the western shore treasurer, on or before the first of June next, or thereafter irredeemable; for which the holders of said bills of credit may, at their option, receive either bills of exchange drawn on the trustees of said state at London, or state loan-office certificates, bearing an annual interest of six per cent. But if the bills of exchange, or any of them, to be drawn in virtue of said act, shall not be paid, the same shall be renewable, but neither the drawer, or any endorser thereof, shall be answerable for, or liable to pay, any damages thereon, other than the charges of protest.

N. B. The printers in the adjacent states are requested to insert the above in their respective papers.