

the Land and by Implication that the States had none still not answering expectation The Congress further resolved that any resolutions that had passed should neither operate to weaken or strengthen the Claim of the United States or any of them to any Back land by which this point that has given such uneasiness in our Province will be saved and be discussed hereafter in our future Confederacy.

The second point they had in view was the point of Taxation which they thought unequal being rated on slaves as well as whites. This has been expressly named as the mode as to 6 millions of Dollars. As to 14 more the same Declaration is made as in the article of Land, that the proportion of sinking it shall be adjusted hereafter on each State and that nothing heretofore done shall strengthen or weaken such Inquiry or Question.

Our Province having in some measure obtained a Satisfaction on these two Heads, nothing now remains but to consider whether the Convention having impowered us to proceed and inlist for and during the war on the 20 Dollars we can go on the Terms of three years and the same Bounty being for a less Term and in this Point we are pretty generally agreed to depart from the Letter to preserve the Spirit.

Fort Lee has followed the same Fate as Fort Washington except that our Powder and men with two 12. Pounders escaped. We lost 1000 Barrells of Flour and 300 Tents better than 400 of the Maryland Troops were taken in and about fort Washington where Major Price writes our Brother Comm^{rs} son fell as well as Col^o Williams of the Rifle Battalion bravely fighting in his Country's cause.

I am greatly surprised that these Britons are so bent on surprising and that we should be so often so surprised on Long Island, York Island, White Plains, Fort Washington and now Fort Lee tho' the enemy crossed at Dobb's Ferry they became not visible 'till within sight of the Fort in short there are so many of them that I shall be all wonder and surprise or learn in the Poets Phrase Nil admirari. I am afraid you have not sent Commissions enough.

24 Nov^r 1776
Philad^a
wrote in the midst
of Company

I am Sir,
Your most Humble Serv^t
Benjamin Rumsey.

Monday 25th November 1776.

C. S. J.

Council met. Present the same Members as on Saturday except M^r Thomas.

The Council contract with John Cannon and Daniel Rich-