

[Numb. 551.]
THE
MARYLAND GAZETTE,

Containing the freshest Advices foreign and domestic.

THURSDAY, November 27, 1755.

The following Letter was received last Week, but came to Hand too late to be inserted in that Gazette:

November 29, 1755.

MR. CAREW,

YOUR Correspondent A. B. in your Paper (No. 544) must be in a Panic Fret, when he imagines that the French and Indians are capable of subduing this Province.

Can we think with him, that the Indians are such Fools and Madmen, as to run upon inevitable Death for a few Scalps and a trifling Plunder? Ridiculous!—Is not the Country too well inhabited to suffer the Indians to penetrate far into it without making them pay very dearly for such a foolish Rashness? Could they ever expect to reach Annapolis, without being their Retreat cut off, and their Lives destroyed? Do we not see in your last Week's Paper, that Thousands were ready, and on their March, to attack the Indians in Baltimore County, till they were stopped by the better Intelligence of no Enemy being there?

As War is a tacit Appeal to GOD, we may be firmly persuaded that he will be on our Side, when we fight against the Invaders of our Rights and Property. This would make us act in case of an Invasion, on the justest Principle, would animate us with the most ardent Courage, and would furnish us with a preserving Fortitude. Nothing but Death should divert us from repelling Invaders, and defending all that is dear to us, from Rapine and Cruelty; and in such a laudable Undertaking we might reasonably rely on GOD's Protection, we should proceed with such an Impetuosity, and dare with such a Contempt of Danger, as would render us almost invincible.

As to what A. B. says about Fortifying Annapolis, I have no Objection to it. Not that I think Annapolis, and other Places at a Distance from the Frontiers, are under the Necessity of being Fortified, from any Apprehension of the Enemy's penetrating so far into the Country; but that common Prudence (in case of Treachery, Cowardice, or other unforeseen Accidents) should direct us to fortify some Place, wherein Warlike Armaments and Provisions might be secured, and where Women and Children might retire to for Safety. And when we consider both the Importance and Situation of Annapolis; as it is the Repository of all the public Records; as it is open to the Bay, by which Supplies of Provision and Reinforcements of Men may be easily obtained, and as it may be fortified at a very moderate Expence; it ought to be our first, and chiefest Care to have that Place secured. I would not, however, have the Country-people (as A. B. advises) retire to Annapolis when Fortified, as to a proper Sanctuary; where (as he says) the Enemy would be then kept at Bay, and prevented from fixing their Seat here, till Assistance came to us from our Mother Country: But, after leaving a sufficient Number to defend that, or any other fortified Place, I would have the Militia (under a more proper Regulation than they are at this Time) be employed at a Distance in repelling any Invasion and annoying the Enemy.

Let then my Countrymen, for the Sake of all that is valuable in this Life, accustom themselves early to Labour, Wants, and Exercises of every Kind; and by being frequently in Danger, let them cure themselves to Fortitude and Presence of Mind. By such Means they will strengthen their Constitution, and be enabled to bear Hunger, Thirst, Heat and Cold, and all the Severities of a Military Life. This is a noble Foundation for Virtue, and a Love of one's Country. To die bravely for it, is truly Heroic. He who runs a Doubt in the honorable Way, will not escape it in an ignominious One; For Death pursues him who flies, and does not spare the Coward who turns his Back. And as genuine Virtue cannot suffer an ignominious Repulse, but will advance and secure a Man's Courage, in spite of Fear and Reproach; so it will at last unfold the Gates of Heaven to those who, by fighting courageously for their King and Country, have deserved Immortality. May then my Countrymen tread in the Steps of the brave NEW-ENGLAND MEN, and learn by the secret Exercises of War, to endure Hardships, and they they, formidable as they are, Fire-Arms, Swords, and Bayonets, equal the severe Indians and perfidious French. So prays,
S. R. Your constant Reader, X.

QUEBEC (in Canada) June 30.

SINCE the Arrival of the last Ships from Europe, an Estimate has been made of our Force in these Parts, amounting on the whole to 23,000 effective Men, including the Garrison of this City, Montreal, and the rest of the Forts in Canada. We are in higher Spirits here than can easily be imagin'd, having within these three Days received the certain Assurance that the English Colonies, which we thought were united to furnish an Invasion, are equally jealous and distrustful of each other, as also the Commanders of their Troops; The former, lest they should bear a disproportionate Burden of the War; and the latter, lest they should not have an equal Opportunity of Honour, or Triumph. [There is too much Truth in this.] At a late Council of War held at Niagara Fort, July 10. At the principal commanding Officers, it was determined, that whatever should be the Success of any future Enterprise, against the English, who were coming armed to all Points, to drive us out of Canada, the Troops on the Ohio had nothing to do but maintain the Ground there already got, and by no means to venture beyond the Allegany Mountains into the Province of Virginia, till repeated Success, or immediate

Orders from Europe, should authorize them to vary their Conduct in this Point. At the same Time it was determin'd, that the Forces of Niagara had nothing else to do, but maintain that important Pass; and that those on the Erie, at Crown-Point, and Northward, towards St. Lawrence Bay, being nearer the main Force at Quebec, and the neighbouring Places, and in Consequence more ready to be furnished with Supplies of every Kind, or favour'd in Case of a necessitous Retreat, should push every material Advantage they might happen to gain, in order, if possible, to secure the chief Part of Acadia, which on Account of the advantageous Situation of Cape-Breton, might lay such a Foundation for our future Progress, as might not easily be in the Power of the English to root up.

Amsterdam, August 26. We hear that the Number of Privateers, small and great, fitting out in the Ports of England, Scotland, and Ireland, is about 300. The numerous List of the present Naval Forces of Great-Britain may justify the last, 148 Ships of the Line, viz. 6 of 100 Guns; 12 of 90; 12 of 80; 43 of 74; and 70; 35 of 60; and 40 of 50. 11, 203 Frigates; viz. 3 of 44 Guns; 44 of 40; and 58 of 20. 111, 57 Sloops of 16 Guns each; besides 18 Bomb Vessels, and 10 Fire-Ships. In all 336 Vessels, not including Yatchets, Tenders and Store-ships.

LONDON, August 26.

Private Accounts concerning the late unhappy Defeat of General Braddock inform us that before the two Regiments gave Way, they demanded of the Officers a Sight of the Enemy, and on that Condition declared their Readiness to fight them, but refused standing to be shot at from Trees and behind Bushes, whilst they were in vain spending their Ammunition, and losing their Lives to no Purpose.—Upon this State of the Case, instead of a furious Engagement, a cautious Retreat should, without all Doubt, have been made Choice of; for the General had not only fallen into an Ambuscade, and was thereby flank'd on both Sides by the Indians and French Rangers, who took Aim under the Advantage of the Wood, but was defeated even of a sufficient Number of Indians, to repel those on the French Side, and who are alone capable of being a Match for their Brethren. It is to be hop'd therefore, that the Behaviour of the two Irish Regiments, which are not compos'd of the Natives of Ireland, but chiefly of English and Scotch, when the whole of this unfortunate Action comes out, may admit of some Degree of Alliviation.

A full Account of this Action would disclose such a Scene as was never seen before in our, nor perhaps in any other Army.

Though the public in general seem to be very uneasy concerning the Consequences of General Braddock's Defeat, we can, with Pleasure, assure them, that (in order to dissipate their Doubts) Virginia, &c. &c. are capable of raising 40,000 Militia to defend their Frontiers at a short Warning.

September 3. It is said that a certain Number of 40 and 50 Gun Ships will be immediately sent to America, to replace the great Ships which must necessarily come home.

A considerable Train of Artillery is ready to be shipped for America, with a great Number of Stands of Arms.

September 11. We hear from Dunkirk, that lately several English, Scots and Irish Recruits, have arrived there for the Army, and that no Person is permitted to view the Works now carrying on there, without a written Order from the Commissary; and farther, that two English Vessels only are detained in their Port.

Orders have been sent to all the Fleets, Squadrons, and single Ships, now out, to make Repairs, particularly outward bound Ships.

All our Packet-boats to and from Holland, France, Flanders and Portugal, are reinforced with an additional Number of Seamen and Arms, the better to defend themselves, and prevent the Taking any of the Mails brought by the said Packets.

Capt. Williams of the Dolphin, arrived at Falmouth from Pool, reports, that he spoke with a Brigantine from Malaga, bound to Rotterdam, the Master of which informed him, that he was brought to, off Cape Finisterre, by the French Fleet, consisting of ten Sail, and that the Admiral inform'd him, he was looking out for the English Fleet.

From Rochefort they write, that three Men of War are ordered to sail from thence with Provisions and warlike Stores for their American Colonies.

September 13. Admiral Hawke, with the Squadron under his Command, was well off Ushant the first Instant.

[A Correspondent has remarked to us, that the Duke of Argyll could fortel the Repulse of our Troops before Carthagena, in the last War, from the Abilities of their Leader, who never had command'd any Troops before, and who however laudably he might have discharged the Duty of a Captain, was wholly unacquainted with the Province of a General. Natus unicus abis, si si Prudentis.] The Adis, from Havre for San Domingo, is sent into Portsmouth by one of the cruising Ships.

HALIFAX, October 25.

On Saturday last the Hon. Vice Admiral Boscawen, in his Majesty's Ship Terbay, of 74 Guns; Savage Moynon, Esq; Rear Admiral of the White, in the Monarque of 74 Guns; Francis Holburne, Esq; in the Terrible of 74 Guns; and with the Northumberland of 70 Guns, Lord Colville; the

Grafton of 70, Capt. Holms; the Edinburg of 70, Captain Stanhope; the Somerset of 74, Capt. Geary; the Chichester of 64, Capt. Brett; the Yarmouth of 64, Capt. Norris; the Dunkirk of 60, Capt. Howe; the Anson of 60, Capt. Mann; the Desance of 60, Capt. Andrews; the Nottingham of 60, Capt. Marshall; the Augusta of 60, Capt. Willet, with the Lys and Alcide, Prizes taken from the French, and the Bacchus Tender, sail'd from this Place for England, with a fair Wind. When Admiral Boscawen was under Sail, he was saluted from the Town by the Discharge of the Cannons from the new Batteries on the Beach, which he returned in a very genteel Manner.

We have now in our Harbour four Ships of the Line, viz. the Fougreaux of 64 Guns, Capt. Spry; the Centurion of 54; Capt. Mental; the Norwich of 50, Capt. Barrington; the Litchfield, of 50, Capt. Barton; and the Vulture Sloop, Capt. Scarfe.

BOSTON, November 3.

Last Monday arriv'd here his Majesty's Ship Seaford, Capt. Rawlins, in six Weeks from Plymouth, in Great-Britain, with Dispatches for the several Governments on this Continent, and several Chefts of Money for the Payment of his Majesty's Troops in these Parts; and, as we hear, his Majesty's Commission to his Excellency Major General SHIRLEY, our Governor, appointing him Commander in Chief of all the British Land Forces upon this Continent of North-America.—The Otter Sloop of War, bound for Halifax sail'd with the Seaford; and a Number of Merchant-men bound for several Parts.—Several Officers came Passengers in the Seaford, for the King's Forces; also the Rev. Mr. Pell, Chaplain to Sir William Pepperell's Regiment, and the Rev. Mr. Walker.

A few Days after the Seaford left the Port, she fell in with and took a French Vessel in her Return from a fishing Voyage on the Banks: And some Days after, they took another laden with dry Fish, which last was ransomed.—The Seaford brought in here some of the Men belonging to the Prizes. We also hear that the Otter Sloop of War had taken one or two Prizes.

The Seaford was also in Sight of Admiral Hawke's Squadron, and spoke with the Newcastle Man of War, which informed, that the Fleet had taken and sent in about forty Sail of French Ships; and had in their Cruize look'd into Brest, Rochefort, and all the principal French Ports; but could discern no great Appearance of a naval Armament.

Monday last the Snow Diamond, Capt. James Kirkwood arriv'd here in seven Weeks from London, but left from Portsmouth: He informs us, that off the western Islands he was brought to by two French Men of War; who, after interrogating him for some Time, admitted him to proceed on his Voyage: Some of the Letters and Papers which the Passengers had, were thrown overboard, as they expected to be taken by the Enemy. A considerable Quantity of Powder came in Capt. Kirkwood.

By Capt. Bethune we learn, that his Majesty was returned to his British Dominions from Hanover, and land'd at Deal the 16th of September last. We also hear, that one of our 20 Gun Ships has been taken by the French; on board of which was the Governor of South Carolina, bound to his there.

Last Night Capt. McKay arriv'd here in four Days from Chignecto, who informs, that last Monday's midnight's Transports, with a great Number of Neutral War Boards, fail'd from that Place, under Convoy of three Men of War of 20 Guns each; and that it was thought they were intended for South-Carolina.—That our Men were in general in good Health.—That Capt. Willson, of one of the Companies died lately there.

Our last Advices from the Camp at Lake George, brought by an Express which arriv'd here last Friday, are, That Capt. Rogers (who was sent as a Spy) with 4 Men, returned to the Camp last Tuesday was se'night, and reported it as his Opinion, that he thought there were not above 500 Men in Crown Point Fort; that he killed and scalped a Frenchman within 70 Rods of said Fort, in the Middle of the Day, and got off without any Loss.

By Letters from Halifax, dated October 24, we are inform'd, that the Night before the Fleet sail'd for England, a most horrid Scheme was discovered, that had been laid by some of the principal French Officers, with a Plan of the Town and Batteries, and was done on exceeding thin Paper, and extreme fine Writing, and was folded and press'd as close as possible, and put up in the Middle of a Wash-bill, to go to Canada by the Way of Louisburg. It was, to ride Halifax this Winter, with a Number of Canadians, Indians and Regulars, and when they had taken the Town, they were to fire the Batteries upon the Ships; the Inhabitants all to be shut up in the Church, and Fire put to it; and the Troops were all to be put to the Sword without Quarter. [The Admiral put it to the chief Person concern'd (viz. the Captain of the Alcide) who stoutly deny'd it; upon which the Admiral shew'd it to him in his own Hand Writing, to his horrible Confusion.]

NEW-YORK, November 10.

Monday last, Capt. Thomson arriv'd here in four Days from Halifax, and brought Letters of Repulse for his Majesty's Ship the Garland and Sphinx, then in our Harbour; and last Day the former, commanded by Capt. Arbuthnot, sail'd on a Cruize, in order to make Captures of all French Vessels he should meet with.

Extra.