

... who was escorting some Provisions to ... contrary to his Advice, left him, and ... forward alone; and it is supposed fell into ... enemy's Hands, as he has not since been ... of, and the Track of his Horse was fol- ... ten Miles, and tended directly towards ... Point.

PHILADELPHIA, March 4.
Yesterday last the FIELD OFFICERS of the PHILADELPHIA REGIMENT, chosen in Pursuance of the Militia Law, and duly commissioned and sworn in, in Honour of the Governor, reviewed the Regiment in the Statehouse Square, where they were drawn up under Arms, and made a fine Appearance. In their March thro' the City, the Regiment halted before the Academy, in order to read some Propositions the Inhabitants were desired to hear, for Improvement of our military Affairs; but were disappointed; the Proposers being too precipitately pocketed up their Papers, and dispersed themselves. They have, however, published the following Account of their Proceedings in this Paper, viz.

On Saturday last, a considerable Number of the Inhabitants of this City met at the Academy, to consult upon some Expedient for rendering the Use of Arms more universal, and the Province more secure, in the present perilous Situation of Affairs, by bringing those to learn the Military Exercise, who do not chuse to act as a MILITIA under the present Law. The following Plan of ASSOCIATION was accordingly agreed upon, and subscribed under the three several Heads of HORSE-EXERCISE, FOOT-EXERCISE, and the ARTILLERY-EXERCISE, belonging to the old Association.

ASSOCIATION for promoting Military Discipline among the Freemen of Pennsylvania, who are not WILLING and DESIROUS to act under the present Militia Law.

WHEREAS the weak and defenceless State of this Province, has long been Matter of real Concern to every thinking Person among us, especially since the Commencement of late unjustifiable Encroachments of the French on their Savage Allies; And whereas a War between the English and French Nations seem at present unavoidable, which will expose this rich and flourishing City to Invasions from Sea, and the Parts of the Province to cruel Ravages by Land, if proper Measures of Security are not diligently concerted; And whereas but few of the People seem inclined to muster under the present Militia Law, and to put themselves under Officers propose to act in Pursuance of the Law; And whereas it is nevertheless absolutely necessary and expedient that those who are scrupulous in this respect, should have an Opportunity of acquiring Military Exercise, in a Manner agreeable to themselves; provided it be not repugnant to any wise Institution of their Country. Wherefore, the Subscribers, Freemen of the City and County of Philadelphia, enter into this VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION for accomplishing ourselves in Military Discipline, that we may be ready to appear in the Defence of our Country whenever we are necessarily called thereunto. And that there may be nothing to create Uneasiness among us, nor to interrupt the Design of acquiring the Military Exercise, the following are declared to be the Fundamental Principles, and the essential Principles of this ASSOCIATION, viz.

That we will remain entirely INDEPENDENT of the present Militia Law, in every Shape and Form. For, as we cannot believe that the Law can ever answer the Purposes of Defence, and, were carried into Execution (which we scarce think practicable) would leave the People of this Province on a very unequal Footing, so we cannot think it expedient to act under a Law which we necessarily disapprove of, especially as every individual is, by the Law itself, left to his own Choice, either to act under it, or not. And we do not blame those who think proper to chuse a different Plan from ours, and charitably hope that many of them may do so from a very laudable Motive; so we hope they will grant us the same Indulgence, and allow us an equal Right following our own Judgment, in Matters where we are equally concerned and free.

That we will be under such Officers, as we shall chuse, and his Honour the Governor shall be desired to commission, for the Troop or Company which we respectively set our Names. That we will associate with Capt. Vanderspeigle's, and other Independent Companies, so as to be afterwards formed into one or more Regiments, or Companies, under such Field Officers as the several Captains,

Captains, Lieutenants and Ensigns (thus commissioned and associated) shall chuse, and his Honour the Governor be pleased to commission; for that Purpose. But such Officers shall have no Power to lead us to any Duty or Service without our own Consent, unless a proper Militia Law is first obtained, equally binding on all his Majesty's Subjects of this Province, who being equally free, are therefore intitled to equal Privileges and Immunities.

Philadelphia, Feb. 28, 1756.

This Plan of Association having been offered to my Consideration, by several Gentlemen of this City, I think it necessary to signify my Approbation of it, as an Expedient that will contribute to the public Safety, by promoting Military Discipline among those who do not chuse to act under the present Law.

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

Philadelphia, Feb. 25, 1756.

QUERIES on the above.

1. Whether when the whole City is invited to a Meeting on any Project, and scarce Fifty get together to countenance it, they are more properly called a considerable than an inconsiderable Number?

2. Whether keeping up a Clamour of the weak and defenceless State of the Province, after Sixty Thousand Pounds has been granted and appropriated for its Defence, and so many Forts built on the Frontier, and Troops taken into Pay; has any Meaning in it, and what that Meaning can be?

3. Whether representing this City in public Papers, as being at the same time, both rich and defenceless, is least agreeable to Truth or to Prudence, the Way to deter, or invite an Enemy?

4. Whether a Regiment of Militia, well trained, consisting of near 1000 Men, 50 Pieces of Cannon, and a strong Battery, are to be looked upon as nothing towards the Defence of such a Place as this?

5. Whether the Appearance of such a Regiment under Arms, at three or four Hours Warning, be not a full Proof, that the Assertion in the above Paper, viz. "few of the People seem inclined to muster under the present Militia Law," is an egregious Mistake?

6. Whether it was not proper to shew our Military Projectors (since they seemed ignorant of it) that there was such a Regiment in Being; for so, by knowing how much was done, they might be better able to judge what was wanting?

7. Whether inviting a Number of People to a Consultation, and shutting the Doors in their Faces, as soon as they appear, be a Compliment or an Affront?

8. By whose Order was this done, and what Right had HE to order it?

9. Are not our Laws fram'd by Assemblies of our own chusing?

10. Did the Governor propose any Amendment to our Militia Law, before he passed it?

11. Have the People petitioned the Assembly for any Amendments to that Law, and been refused?

12. Could not these Projectors have met and exercised themselves in the Use of Arms, without affronting in express Terms the Laws and Legislature of their Country?

13. May not the Military Exercise as well be learnt under the Sanction of the Law as without it?

14. Is not making Trial of a Law, by endeavouring to carry it into Execution, the best Way of discovering whether the Law is practicable or impracticable, will or will not answer its Purpose? And if, on such Trial, it be found defective; would not the actual Experiment made, give more Weight to an Application for Amendment?

15. And would not that Weight be still greater, the more generally the Experiment was made?

16. Do those good Men who have generously taken up Arms for the Defence of their Country, and the Officers that have taken so much Pains to discipline them, deserve, for so doing, to be discouraged, and meet with every Kind of Discouragement and Obstacle that Power and Party Views can throw in their Way?

17. If the Projectors intend nothing but the Use of their own Liberty, in learning the Exercise of Arms, can they not enjoy that Liberty, without endeavouring to divide and break the Force already formed under Sanction of the Law; and without soliciting the People to sign an Engagement, not to act under the Law; thereby restraining them in the Liberty they have of acting under the Law if they should chuse it?

18. Whether Union be not very necessary to us all at this Juncture?

19. Whether dividing us is the Way to unite us?

20. Whether an Association and solemn Agreement, not to be obliged "to do any Duty or Service," be not a very droll Kind of an Association; and copied from Poet Bayes, in the Play called the Rehearsal, viz.

"Bayes, I bring out my Bull, and my Bear; and what do you think I make them do, Mr. Johnson?"

"Johnson, Do! why, fight, I suppose."
"Bayes, See how you are mistaken now! I would as soon make them dance. No, egad, Sir, I make them do-----no earthly Thing."

By a Traveller who lately came from New-River, in Virginia, we learn, that two Women were return'd, who had been taken Prisoners the beginning of last Summer by the Shawanese, and carried to one of their Towns, where there was a considerable Number of English Prisoners, who have been taken Captives from the Frontiers of Virginia. That when their Warriors arrive within half a Mile of their Towns, it is their Custom to whip those who have been so unfortunate as to fall into their Hands, all the Remainder of the Way till they get to the Town, and that it was in this Manner our poor unhappy Neighbours from Virginia had been treated by them. That they afterwards used them as well as could be expected from Persons of their Savage Disposition. Thus they suffered some of their Men to go out a Hunting, and let them have three Charges of Ammunition, but would allow them no more, for fear of their returning back to the English. That Capt. Stahlmacker who was carried Captive from Holston River, and supposed to be kill'd, was still a Prisoner among them, and was in Health.

The two Women above mentioned were carried by some Indian Hunters, about 100 Miles from their Town to attend them as Servants, to dress their Victuals, and stretch the Skins they might procure, and as the Indians left them in the Day, while they went to Hunt, and did not return till the Evening, their Absence gave the Women an Opportunity to make their Escape, which they effected with great Difficulty and Danger. They knew of no Way of returning Home, without passing by the Indian Town, and if they were discover'd they fear'd Death would be their Portion, to prevent which they lodg'd a Night in the Corn Fields near the Town, and arose in the Morning very early, before the Indians were up, by which means they escaped without being seen: But after they had travelled for some Time up New-River, they to their Surprise, found themselves got very near an Indian before they saw him, but as he was busy in skinning a Deer, he did not see them, till they hid themselves behind a Log, towards which the Indian's Dog kept a continual Barking, which frightened the Indian as well as the Women, and having dispatch'd the Skinning of his Deer, with as much Speed as possible, he made off, leaving the Carcass behind him, which afterwards afforded an agreeable Repast to the starving Travellers, who after having satiated their Hunger, took as much of the Meat along as they could carry, and pursued their Journey, making the River their Guide, and feeding on Grapes and Nuts for their Support. Having travell'd till they were almost famished with Hunger, the Dutch Woman attempted to kill her English fellow Traveller, in order as it was supposed to Eat her; but the English Woman after a smart Struggle, rescued herself out of the Hands of her more than savage Enemy, and fled away as fast as the feeble Remains of her Strength would permit, and after travelling forty Days, from the Time of her leaving the Indians, she arrived safe among the English Inhabitants, several Days before her barbarous Companion, and had the Happiness to meet her Husband in Health. The Indians when they first carried these two Women away, with other Prisoners, were ten Days on their Journey to their Town, at which they had Plenty of Provision, with many fine Fields of Corn, and their Country contains immense Tracts of the best Land in the World. A considerable Number of Families who had fled from their Habitations at New-River, on Account of the Murders done by the Indians, are now return'd to a Place called the Dunkers Bottom, in that River, where they are settled in a Body, and have a large Fort well mann'd.

By Captain Cobourn from Jamaica, there is Advice, that His Majesty's Ships of War on that

Station, have taken about 20 Sail of French Vessels, very valuable, the greatest Part of them being Guiney Men.

We hear that 8 Men, 5 of whom had formerly deserted from the French, and are either Frenchmen or Germans that speak French, have deserted from the Regulars quarter'd at Easton. The Country is desired to look out sharp for them; and endeavour to apprehend them.

ANNAPOLIS, March 18.

By a Letter from Virginia, we are informed, that Capt. Arbuthnot arrived at Hampton in Virginia the 9th of this Month, and brought in three Prizes he took off of Hispaniola, one of them valuable. He spoke with a Snow from Liverpool two Days before his Arrival, which had been out 3 Weeks; the Master acquainted him, that Affairs in England remained in the same doubtful State as to Peace or War, as they were in when we heard last from England.

Tuesday last a Bill which had passed both Houses, and was ingrossed, For the Adjournment of Frederick County Court to June, was, by his Excellency the Governor, pass'd into a Law, in the usual Manner.

We are credibly informed, that one Mr. Selby, who was born and lives on the Eastern Shore of this Province, now near 80 Years of Age, has lately cut five new Teeth.

CUSTOM-HOUSE, ANNAPOLIS, Enter'd,
Sloop Gloucester, John Briggs, from Virginia.

Cleared for Departure,

Sloop Gloucester, John Briggs, for Virginia.

IN the Hands of John Pearson, at Col. Tasher's Plantation, in Prince-George's County, a beautiful Black Horse, full 15 Hands high, and will Cover Mares this Season, at Four Guineas a Leap and Trial. Good Care will be taken of the Mares. The Dam of this Horse, was bred by the Duke of Somerset, and Got by THE HAMPTON-COURT CHILDERS. His Sire, was my Lord Portmore's CRAB, Sire of OROONOKO, SLOE, BLACK AND ALL-BLACK, and many other STALLIONS now in great Repute.

Upper-Marlborough, March 12, 1756.

AGREEABLE to his Advertisement in this Gazette, the Subscriber gives Notice, That (if not by any intervening Accident prevented) he intends to be at Mrs. M'Leod's, in Annapolis, on Sunday Evening, the 21st Instant, to attend such Gentlemen who have an Inclination to be taught the Use of the Foil, &c. agreeable to his former Advertisement, intending to attend at Annapolis until the Sunday following. He Hopes the Gentlemen will agree about the Times and Places of their attending, as the Subscriber has not any Time to lose, being apply'd to by Gentlemen from other Places, having given this Colony the Preference in complying with his Promise to his Friend Mr. William Potts.

On Sunday the 29th Instant, the Subscriber intends to wait on the Gentlemen at Baltimore, and, with suitable Encouragement, to continue there the ensuing Week, in which may be settled the proper Times that they may expect

Their very humble Servant,

JULIUS CÆSAR PARKE.

LENT in Town, but to whom forgot, the following Books, viz.

Broughton on Husbandry and Trade; 1st Vol. Gulliver's Travels; 2d Vol. of Dean Swift's Miscellanies, 4to. K. Lewis 14th, 1st Vol. Voltaire's Letters concerning the English Nation; Tale of a Tub; 1st, 7th, and 9th Vols. of Rollin's Ancient History; Guardian, 3 Vols. Spectator, 2 Vols. and Kennett's Roman Antiquities.

The Borrowers, or present Possessors of 'em, by returning of them, will greatly oblige the Owner.

JOHN BENNETT.

N. B. My Name (if not eras'd) is, either in the Title-Page, or on the preceding Leaf.

TO BE SOLD,

A TRACT of choice Land, lying on Rock-Creek, in Frederick County, called Thompson's Adventure, containing 50 Acres, and is adjoining to John Baldwin Adamson's.

Any Person inclining to purchase, may enquire of John Thompson in Annapolis, and know further.

NOTICE is hereby given, That a Ferry at Joppa, across the GUN-POWDER-RIVER, is now kept by the Subscriber, who has a good Boat and Hands for the Purpose; and a constant Attendance is given.

ISAAC RISTEAU.