

good Distance, and laid it by a Fence, and so crept amongst it, conjecturing they would not, if they saw it, think it worth their while to set Fire to so small a Heap; and in this was my Lodging three Days and three Nights, not daring to stir much out all that Time, as I repeatedly heard the Report of Guns and Indian Halloos: But indeed, if I had not been prevented through Fear, I was now so spent and fatigued, that I found it absolutely necessary to cease rambling till I got recruited; though alas! I had but a poor Prospect of this, for I was almost famished to Death, having had nothing to live upon but the three Bars of Indian Corn aforesaid, and as I knew not when or where to get more, was obliged as it were to count the Grains I eat.

On the Third Night of my being in this lonely Lodging, I heard a Cock crow and a Dog bark, and next Morning made towards the Place I heard them at; but after I had got the Length of the Field, saw three Trees which appeared to be newly set on Fire; so I laid down about an Hour by the Fence, in which Time I heard three Guns go off about a Mile from me: However hearing no more Noise, I made towards a House, which appeared, on my nearer Approach, to be a Stable, all the Houses being burnt: This Place I found afterwards belonged to one *Donalifon*: I here found some Fowls, and attempted to catch one of them, but they were too nimble for me; then I went into the Garden, where I made a very plentiful Meal of green Keal and Parsley: I then went to the Spring and drank about three Pints of Water (not having seen any for several Days before); I then crept into the Oven (which was left standing by the Savages) and slept pretty soundly till Midnight, at which Time I awoke, and hearing a Cock crow, made to the Stable, and caught one, and dressed it by some burning Logs of the Dwelling-House. But alas! the very Smell of the Fowl so overcame me, that I was ready to faint several Times ere it was ready; so I put it whole into my Handkerchief, and returned to the Oven, where I slept till Day, when I got out and went again in Search of inhabited Houses. After I had got about Half a Mile, I heard a Man whistle, which at first I took to be a white Man's Whistle, but upon listening more attentive, had Reason to believe it an Indian Decey; so I hastened back to my Lodging, and had not been in it long before I heard the Noise of Horses, and the Voices of several white Men, which made me look out, and seeing one pass by at some Distance, I cried out to him for God's Sake to pity my distressed Condition, and take me under his Protection. The good Man being startled at my sudden Appearance, and the strange Figure I cut (being entirely in Rags, and as black as any Chimney-sweep) presented his Gun, and if it had not mis'd Fire, he would certainly have deprived me of that wretched Life I had gone through so many Difficulties to preserve; another of the Company perceiving it, cried out, 'Hold, hold, she is a white Woman by her Voice.' Soon after they all came up to me, and I found them to be a Party of ten Men, separated from a Marsh Creek great Company of three Hundred. One of them (Mr. Dickey) was so kind as to take me up behind him on his Horse, and after tying me on with a Belt (for I was so weak as not to be able to sit) took me about three Miles to his House, where I got refreshed with warm Milk, and such Things as I was able to take, and this Morning was brought to this Place; but what is my Astonishment and Joy when here my Eyes are once more blessed with the Sight of my Husband!

By the KING,
A P R O C L A M A T I O N,
For a general F A S T.

GEORGE R.
WHEREAS the manifold Sins and Wickedness of these Kingdoms have most justly deserved heavy and severe Punishment from the Hand of Heaven; and the Almighty, out of his great Mercy, hath not only been our Defence in Times of Danger, but hath protected and preserved us from imminent Destruction: Especially at this Time, when some neighbouring Countries, in Alliance and Friendship with us, have been visited with a most dreadful and extensive Earthquake, which hath also, in some Degree, been felt in several Parts of our Dominions: And, whereas the present Situation of Public Affairs (as to the Issue of them) is of the highest Importance to the Peace and Safety of these Kingdoms, to our Commerce and Liberties, and above all to the most valuable Blessing of the Protestant Religion: We, from the deepest Sense of this our State and of the Miseries which our People would suffer if a like Visitation should be shewed forth upon these Kingdoms, and placing our whole Trust and Confidence in the Mercy of Almighty God, have resolved, that a general and public Fast be observed, that both we and our People may humble ourselves

before Almighty God, and in a most devout and solemn Manner send up our Prayers and Supplications to the Divine Majesty, to avert all those Judgments which we most justly have deserved, to continue his Mercies, and to perpetuate the Enjoyment of the Protestant Religion among us, and Safety and Prosperity to our Kingdoms and Dominions, and to implore his Protection and Blessing upon our Fleets and Armies; and We have thought fit, by the Advice of our Privy Council, to issue this our Royal Proclamation, hereby appointing and commanding that such general and public Fast be observed throughout that Part of our Kingdom of Great-Britain, called England, the Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed, on Friday, the sixth Day of February next ensuing.

And for the better and more orderly solemnizing the same, We have given Directions to our Arch-Bishops and Bishops of England to compose a Form of Prayer, suitable to this Occasion, to be used in all Churches, and other Places of Public Worship, and to take Care the same be timely dispersed throughout their respective Dioceses. And We do strictly charge and command, That the said Public Fast be religiously observed by all Our loving Subjects, as they tender the Favour of Almighty God, and upon Pain of suffering such Punishment as We may justly inflict upon all such as shall contemn or neglect the Performance of so religious and necessary a Duty.

GIVEN at our Court, at St. James's, the 18th Day of December 1755, in the Twenty-Ninth Year of our Reign.

G O D save the K I N G.

HIS Majesty in Council, was this Day pleased to order, That a like Fast should be observed throughout His Kingdom of Ireland upon the said 6th Day of February next: And that His Majesty hath thought proper to direct his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, to cause a Proclamation to be forthwith published in that Kingdom.

WILLIAMSBURG, March 26.

Yesterday the General Assembly of this Colony met at the Capitol in this City, and 87 Members of the House of Burgesses having taken the Oaths appointed, and subscribed the Test, the House waited on his Honour the Governor, in the Council Chamber, who directed them to proceed to the Choice of a Speaker; and, being returned, made Choice of *John Robinson, Esq;* who was Speaker to the former Assembly. Having received the Governor's Approbation of their Choice, Mr. Speaker, in the Name of the House, petitioned him, that they might enjoy their ancient Rights and Privileges, established either by Law or Custom; to which his Honour answered, *That it should be his special Care to maintain the House in the Enjoyment of all their just Rights and Privileges;* and then was pleased to make the following SPEECH:

Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses,

THE Urgency of our present Situation, well known to you all, and the very near Approach of that Season which presses on you, the exerting every Effort for your own, and the common Safety and Welfare of all your Fellow Subjects on this Continent; determined me to have the Satisfaction of meeting an Assembly, from whom I have the highest Expectations, so soon as I could, with some Degree of that Ease, which I always wish to indulge them in, whose Duty leads them, when called upon, to so laborious a Task as the public Service.

Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses,

With great Pleasure I meet this new Assembly, both from the Readiness I have ever experienced in the Council, to assist me on all Occasions when his Majesty's Service, and the Affairs of this Dominion required their Advice, and from the Confidence wherewith I depend that you, Gentlemen, will be no less industriously animated in your Country's Cause now drawing to an important Crisis.

General *Shirley*, by Instructions from his Majesty some Time ago, held a Council of War at *New-York*, to regulate this Summer's Campaign; as a Basis for your Deliberations, I shall cause the Minutes of that Council of War to be laid before you, with several other Papers relating thereto: And in Consequence thereof, I recommend Secrecy in your Consultations on them, lest the necessary Confidence should become destructive, by letting our watchful and most inveterate Enemies into the Knowledge of our Purposes.

These Communications will inform you, Gentlemen, of the vigorous Resolutions for the common Good, that the Colonies to the Northward have generously and unanimously taken; and their Determination to raise their full Quota of Men and Money on this critical Juncture. I surely trust that there can be no need of prolix Exhortations to you to become emulous of an Example which at once includes every cogent Consideration of Zeal, and Duty to the best of Kings, your native Country, and your individual Preservation.

You may observe how intimately the Execution of these well concerted Measures, is connected

with your Concurrence, and readily furnishing the Supplies of Men and Money requisite on your Parts; and when you consider that the Operations of this Summer, if duly supported, may be decisive (or in a great Measure so) of the future Safety and Tranquility of this, and the British Colonies on this Continent; this I conceive to be the general Opinion.

I promise myself you will not hesitate one Moment to sustain, and encrease the Honour that this Colony has already gained in the present Affair, and to approve yourselves deserving of that large Share of his Majesty's paternal Care and Affection, which has sheltered and cherished in all our Occasions, by sufficiently making an immediate effectual Provision of Men and Money for the Expedition against the French Encroachments at *Crown-Point*, and on the *Northern-Lakes*.—As also that under the Direction of Governor *Searpe*, to the *Ohio*, and for the Protection of our Frontiers. Your Supplies, Gentlemen, must be with all imaginable Dispatch, as the Time for taking the Field is very near.

The Monies disbursed from the last Vote of Assembly will be laid before you by the Treasurer and Committee, when you see proper to call for the Account.

I recommend to you the Arming of the Militia, and to have their Arms of one Bore, which are not so at present; if they should be called out on any Attack of the Enemy, great Inconveniencies may occur by having Guns of different Bores.

After you have seriously considered and determined on the above Affairs recommended to you, I desire to engage your Attention and Regard to a Number of People, upwards of Eleven Hundred, who have lately been sent here from *Nova-Scotia*, under the Name of French Neutrals: Governor *Lawrence* acquaints me, that his Majesty's Council, assisted by Admirals *Boscawen* and *Mesjon*, advised him, as the most for his Majesty's Service, to divide these People among these different Colonies; I shall cause to be laid before you Governor *Lawrence's* Letter, and the different Receipts of these People when landed.

By Advice of his Majesty's Council they were received, and have been supported until this Time, from the Two Shillings per Hoghead Revenue; but, as that Fund is near exhausted, I must recommend it to you to provide for the future Disposition of these People, and to put them under such Regulations and Restrictions as may keep them in a due Submission to our Constitution, and from being burthensome to the different Parishes, and probably they may become useful Members of this Community.

Gentlemen, I recommend the Revival of the Laws, that if any are near expiring they may be renewed, if thought proper.

Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses,

Concord and Unanimity are the vital Springs of public Consultations, and from these the happiest Omens of attendant Success are to be drawn. I do, therefore, with all the Earnestness of an Heart devoted to the Service of our most excellent Sovereign, and the consummate Felicity of this his ancient Colony and Dominion, particularly recommend these great Essentials to you, and entreat you to justify the Presages of an happy Session, which I draw from the agreeable Appearance now before me.

Be assured, Gentlemen, that my fixed Attention shall never deviate from these Objects, and that, as I have hitherto done all in my Power, for the good of this Country, I shall cheerfully and with the greatest Pleasure join you in every Thing that may be for the Service of his Majesty, and this Dominion in particular, and of all the British Colonies in general.

On Saturday last, the Sloop *Alice*, Obadiah Ayer Master, belonging to *New-London*, but brought in here by Capt. *Arbuthnot*, taken of *Hispaniola*, carrying on an illicit Trade with the French; was condemned by a Court of Vice-Admiralty, together with her Cargo, consisting of 40 Hogheads of Sugar, 40 ditto of Melasses, and 400 lbs. of Indico.

The same Day came an Account, That the *Snow Elizabeth*, belonging to *Havre de Grace*, taken also by Capt. *Arbuthnot*, and on Board of whom he had put his Lieutenant and 12 Men, was lost coming into the Capes, on Friday Se'night, and the Lieutenant and all the People perished except two Englishmen, and one Frenchman, who staid by the Ship, and by that Means saved themselves, till Boats from the Eastern Shore came to their Relief; and it is hoped some Part of

the Cargo will be saved, but did not bear to Pieces.

The Seventh of this Instant crossed Patowmack, on a Fort Cumberland, and a Prisoner, they besieged a Stronghold, where there were 7 Men, 3 Women, and the Indians set Fire to, and were in it to make the best they could, but they all perished in the Flames. Two men escaped, the rest perished, that escaped was wounded.

PHILADELPHIA

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman of a County, dated

"Just now arrived here to Capt. *Croghan*, who brings relates as follows: That about last, being out of Sight of the Coast, he was seized by an Indian, and another Indian, who had been on the Coast some Days ago, when being on some Distance from the Town, he was killed and scalped him, a Number of Warriors in the Party does not amount to a Hundred, Twenty-six, under *Stingas*, were left the Town; and more, followed them four Days upon the *Conococheague* Set. Return Home, to annoy the Country. He informs us, that a Party of *parvae* and *Tawawa* Indians, who had been at Fort *Du*, fell down upon the English.

[The above Baker is fine, has brought the Scalp with him, that there are above a Hundred belonging to this Province, the Indians intend to keep their Inhabitants: And that old Prisoners from them, at a great Price, and employ them in Work.]

There is also come to Town *Craig*, who was taken and carried off by the Indians, on the Eleventh of February, Search of two Sons of the *W* County, whose House was burnt down. He informs us, that they immediately about his Neck, and drove travelling towards the Cove Mouth, which was answered by a Party, and there he saw the Wife of *Craig* about their Necks: That at Night they stripped quite naked, and their Luggage most Extent and tied to a Post and a Blanket thrown over him, and all Night: That in the Morning Prisoners with their Luggage, and *Craig*, till they came to the *W* (Informer believes) where they had on which they raised the War Hoop, another; soon after which an Indian he belonged to a Party went off, not far off, and after the usual Ceremony, that then another Indian came ready to receive them; on which he Shout, provided themselves with the Ground with them in a furious manner, and after the usual Ceremony, they came to a Water called *W*, and there they staid four Days, during which time about the Strength of *M Dowell*, and what the English were doing, a Party went off, as they said, for *Craig* in the Custody of four Indians. And soon after Captain *Jacobs*, who was then in *Virginia*, with them two Men in *Virginia*, as they gave them made him assist them in making a Party, which when finished they returned to the *Cabbin* to the *W* *Hawes*, and he made his Escape while he was with the Indians, and of them, often say, that a Body of many Hundreds, and to be made of *aneke*, *Cingoes*, *Tawawa*, *Twigwags*, *Coghnewaga's*, and long he went into *Pennsylvania* in two Months, Inhabitants, and that they would them as long as there was a Man left. By Capt. *Stiles* from *Lisbon* we are informed, that they had a Victory there, that threw down a Church, above Five Hundred Persons perished.

ANNAPOLIS

Sunday Evening last Arrived in the Brig *Nancy*, from the Passage he met with, in *La* on the 20th of *March*, the *Malebey*, from the *West-Indies* in great Distress, having sp