

The 20th they made an Attempt with their Army, to storm the Place, but were againe back, whereupon they set Fire to two Sloops, burnt almost all our Battsos; and at Day-light drew. About Mid-day, their Army was marching across the Lake, as if returning to Tileroga; but presently after some Men came towards the Fort with a red Flag, upon which we sent an Officer and four Men, with a Flag, to meet them. One of these Men returned with a Letter from M. de Vaudreuil, Commander of the French Army, directed to the Commanding-Officer of Fort William-Henry, containing in Substance, That he sent M. Le Chevalier Leveque, Commander of the Artillery, to acquaint with his Resolution; and that he might give Credit to what he should say to him on his Behalf. In Consequence of which Letter, another Officer was sent to bring in M. Le Merceire, blindfolded. The Summary of his Message was as follows: That M. de Vaudreuil was averse to carrying on War, and regretted much the Miseries that attended it; to prevent which (as we were the aggressors, in having made Encroachments on his Majesty's Territories, and built Forts in them) he desired that the Fort might be delivered in a peaceable Manner: That the Garrison should be allowed all the Honours of War, and be permitted to carry away their most valuable Effects, only leaving something to be left to gratify the Indians, from whom they need be under no Apprehension, and that Regulars enough to protect the Garrison from Violence they might offer.—That if we refused to agree to these Terms, they intended immediately to make a general Assault, in which, should they succeed, we must take the Consequences, &c.

In Answer to this, the Commanding Officer sent Word to the French Commander, "That his fixed Resolution was to defend his Majesty's Garrison to the last Extremity;" after which M. Merceire was carried back blindfolded, and on after their Army was seen to move towards Every Thing was ready for a general Assault, and tho' we were sickly, a general Firmness could be discovered by the Behaviour of the Troops, to give great Hopes they would do their Part. The Officers behaved with the greatest Vigilance, Care and Resolution. The Enemy's Fire was renewed by some of their detached Parties, while the main Body kept at a Distance. That Night early in the Morning, a third general Assault was undertaken, in which they again failed. Upon which they set Fire to three several Store-Houses of the provincial Troops, and all the Houses of the Rangers, which burnt with great Violence, and happily did no further Damage.

Monday the 21st, at Day-break, the Enemy withdrew in their usual Way. Between 9 and 10 began to Snow, and continued so the whole Day and Night, during which Time the Fire on both Sides in a great Measure ceased. The 22d, early in the Morning, they seem'd resolved to burn the Sloop upon the Stocks: They were beat off several Times, but still persevered; and at last, by means of Combustibles and dry Faggots from their Campment, effected their Design. The Sloop continued blazing until broad Day on Wednesday. A little Time after this the Enemy wholly disappeared.

The Whale-Boats, Scows or Gondolas, and other small Boats, have escaped the Conflagration. We had only seven Men slightly wounded. The Prisoners tell us our Artillery had good Effect.

A Letter from Falmouth by the General Wall Packet Boat.

Corn is excessive dear. Numbers of Rioters in every County take the Liberty of breaking open Cellars belonging to private Persons, and carrying off the Grain, under Pretence, that it was intended for Exportation.—Abundance of Subscriptions are set on Foot in the Kingdom to raise Money among the Rich to purchase Corn for the Relief of the Poor; and several Gentlemen have purchased large Quantities to give away among their poorer Sort of Tenants.—The Distillery the last Year from Malt and Grain was four million four hundred thirty-five thousand three hundred and thirty-nine Gallons of Spirits, the quantity, on which was three hundred forty-four thousand five hundred and seventy Pounds, sixteen Shillings and six Pence.—Capt. Dyer in the Distance Privateer caught in here a few Days ago, a large French Ship between 3 and 400 Tons.—Privateers here have had Success.—Hope they have such with you: the Mediterranean being left open, almost every vessel bound up the Straights falls into the Hands of the French: We have lost a Number that loaded in Port for Naples, Leghorn, &c.—The Order of War has brought into Mount-Bay, a large

Privateer bound for Mississippi, but in a very stormy night last Week she parted her Cables; and drove ashore on the Beach; seven Persons attempting to get ashore in the Boat were lost, the Rest who staid on shore in the Wreck escaped with Life: She was left dry with the Tide for some small Time, when they unloaded Part of her Cargo, but upon the Return of the Tide she beat entirely to Pieces.

PHILADELPHIA, March 31.

Since our last arrived here Capt. Venning from St. Christophers, with whom came Passengers the Captains Watson and Pines, both of this Port; the first being taken by a French Privateer on his Passage hither from Barbados, and carried to St. Thomas's; and the latter taken going to St. Christophers, and carried into Guadaloupe.

Capt. Watson informs us, that when the Privateer arrived at St. Thomas's with his Prize, the Governor sent him Notice to leave the Place in 24 Hours; but the Captain expecting more Countenance, did not pay a proper Regard to the Orders, upon which the Prize was sold by the Governor.

Capt. Watson further advises, that no Prizes are allowed to be taken into any of the Spanish Ports; and mentions particularly an English Snow being carried into Porto Rico by a French Privateer, but was immediately ordered out again by the Governor; upon which the People set her on Fire, and left her, thinking it would be impossible to get her into any French Port, the English Privateers being so thick among the Islands.

Capt. Tivotoe, in a Sloop, bound here from Barbados, is likewise taken, and carried into Guadaloupe.

By Capt. Venning there is Advice that the Privateer Spry, Capt. Bowne, of this Place, has taken a French Privateer Sloop, of ten Carriage Guns, Bermuda built, and carried her into Antigua; and that after getting some Necessaries he wanted, he proposed to take her out in Consort with him. It is also said Capt. Bowne has drove another Privateer ashore.

In a Letter from St. Christophers, dated March 2, the following Vessels are all said to be lately taken, and carried into Guadaloupe, viz.

Capt. Ouchterlony, in a Ship; Capt. Pines, in a Sloop from Philadelphia; Capt. Taylor, in a New-York Sloop; Capt. —, in a Ship from England; Capt. Conyers, in a Sloop from Bermuda; Capt. Tivotoe, in a Barbados Sloop; Capt. Inglife, in a Boston Ship; Capt. Conolly, in a Ship from Bristol; Capt. Miller, in a Philadelphia Sloop; Capt. Warner, in a Ship from New-England; Capt. Rofs, in a Ship from London; and Capt. Bell, in a Sloop from —.

On Thursday last a Gentleman arrived here from Halifax, from which Place he had been out 20 Days, and says, that no French Fleet had then arrived at Cape-Breton, nor were there any Men of War there, a Halifax Privateer having come in before he set off, and had looked into the Harbour, where he saw only three Privateers lying.

April 7. We are assured, from good Authority, that upwards of 2000 French, Canadians and Indians included, attacked Fort William-Henry on the 19th ult. that they staid about the Place for four Days, and then went off; and that the Prisoners taken by our People informed them, that in the last Action with Capt. Rogers the Enemy lost about fifty Men, but their Loss on this Occasion is not known.

Capt. Cobourn, from Barbados, advises, that Capt. Minshall, in a Privateer of that Place, has carried in there a French Vessel, reckoned worth 7 or 8000 Pounds; and that another Privateer, of the same Port, and who was in Consort with Capt. Minshall, boarded and took a large Ship, in the Latitude of Martinico, which was likewise brought in to Barbados. The Captain of her pretended she was Spanish Property, but as no Spanish Papers were found, it was thought she would turn out a lawful Prize, and if so, will be worth to the Captors, it is said, about 40,000 Pounds. The same Vessel chased, fired at, and had like to have taken Capt. Cobourn, some Time before the Privateer came up with her.

On Tuesday last Capt. Huston came up from Jamaica, with whom came Passenger Capt. Appowin, of this Harbour (taken some Time ago by the French) who informs us, that a Privateer Sloop of Jamaica, of 8 Guns, commanded by one Coverly, was taken by a French Sloop of 4 Guns, and carried into Porto Prince. He further says, that a Privateer Sloop, of St. Christophers, had brought into Kingston a French Ship, and had sent another into Savannah le Mar.

From St. Christophers we have a Report (which we hope will prove without Foundation) that the

Privateer Spry, Capt. Bowne, of this Port, was taken off of Martinico by four French Privateers, after a most bloody and obstinate Engagement.

Friday last William Connor, and Samuel Bailey, two Soldiers belonging to the first Battalion of Royal Americans, were Hanged for Desertion; they both behaved well, and seemed very penitent. The whole Battalion marched with them to the Place of Execution.

ANNAPOLIS, April 14.

On Friday last the General Assembly of this Province met at Baltimore-Town.

His Excellency HORATIO SHARPE, Esquire, opened the Session with the following SPEECH.

"Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,

"YOU will learn from some Minutes which the Earl of LOUDOUN has given me to lay before you, that a Plan has been formed for the better Defence of his Majesty's Dominions in North-America, and for Annoying his Majesty's Enemies in these Parts: You will also see what Share his Lordship expects you will take in carrying the Plan into Execution: And as the Supplies that I am to ask of you are small, in Comparison to what some of his Majesty's Colonies generously offered to grant on this Occasion, and your Troops to be employed for the more immediate Protection of this Province, I need not, I hope, use any other Arguments to press you to comply with his Lordship's Requisitions. And as I doubt not but we all meet sincerely disposed to manifest our Zeal for, and to promote, the Service of our most gracious Sovereign, I flatter myself we shall proceed with Unanimity, and give such Dispatch to the Business on which we are assembled, as the present Posture of Affairs, and the advanced Season, require."

To his Excellency HORATIO SHARPE, Esq; Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of MARYLAND.

The humble ADDRESS of the House of DELEGATES.

"May it please your Excellency,

"WE, his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Delegates of the Freemen of Maryland, in Assembly convened, beg Leave to return your Excellency our Thanks for your Speech at the Opening of this Session; and to assure your Excellency, that we are to deeply sensible of the many Blessings we enjoy under the paternal Care and Protection of our most gracious Sovereign, that we need no Arguments to induce us to embrace every Opportunity of Promoting his Service to the utmost of our Ability.

"As the present Posture of Affairs and advanced Season of the Year, require the greatest Dispatch, we shall immediately take into Consideration the Minutes, which, by Direction of the Earl of LOUDOUN, you have been pleased to lay before us; and shall endeavour to do every Thing that may be reasonably expected from us, towards complying with his Lordship's Requisition: And we hope the Unanimity with which we shall all proceed, will manifest our Zeal for his Majesty's Service, and greatly contribute to the Ease and Safety of the People of this Province.

"ALEX. WILLIAMSON, Speaker.

April 9, 1757."

The Governor's ANSWER.

"Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

"THE Address which you were pleased to present to me, gives me great Satisfaction, as you therein assure me, that you are not insensible of the Blessings we enjoy under the paternal Care and Protection of our most gracious Sovereign: And as I trust you will not, on considering the Minutes that lie before you, think the Earl of LOUDOUN asks any Thing of you but what is most reasonable, I flatter myself you will cheerfully embrace the Opportunity of Promoting his Majesty's Service that now offers, and in every Respect answer his General's Expectations.

"HOR. SHARPE."

The Honourable House of Assembly, have ordered Writs of Ejection; for Three Representatives, in the Room of Mr. James Edge, late for Talbot,

deceased; Capt. John Handy, late for Somerset, deceased; and Mr. John Hawkins, junior, late for Prince-George's, deceased.

Last Thursday Mr. JOSEPH ENSOR, of Baltimore Town, was Married in Cecil County, to Miss MARY BOUCHELL, an agreeable young Lady, of a very considerable Fortune.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC VENDUE, On Wednesday the 20th of this Instant April, at the House of Mr. JAMES CARY, in BALTIMORE-TOWN,

A SCHOONER, Four Years old, which will carry about 1900 Bushels of Grain. Inventories to be seen at Mr. Robert Swan's in Annapolis, Messrs. Chamier and Carran's at Baltimore-Town, or at Mr. David McCulloch's at Joppa.

THE Subscriber does not now buy Wheat, as formerly advertised.

H. CALLISTER.

Philadelphia, April 7, 1757.

WHEREAS the STAGE-BOATS and WAGGONS employed between Philadelphia and New-York, are found considerably advantageous to Travellers, therefore the Subscribers propose to extend the Stage from Philadelphia to Annapolis, &c. and for that Purpose have provided two good Stage-Boats, one in the River Delaware, and the other in Sassafras, at Frederick-Town, and the Public are hereby informed, that Jonathan Jordan will attend with his Boat for the first Time at Lloyd's Wharf, on Friday and Saturday the 15th and 16th of this Instant April, and so weekly, and then proceed to Cornelius Cary's, at Reedy-Island, where Waggon will be ready to proceed to Frederick-Town, to the other Stage-Boat, which will proceed immediately to Annapolis, and so continue to do once a Week if possible.

As this Undertaking is considerably expensive, and will be useful to the Public, it is hoped it will meet with general Encouragement; and all Persons may depend upon good Usage, and the Stages performed at reasonable Rates, by

JOHN HUGHES, and Company.

N. B. The Land-Carriage is but 21 Miles, and a very good Road.

THERE is at the Plantation of Joseph Mitchell, near Piscataway, in Prince-George's County, taken up as a Stray, a small Bay Horse, branded on the near Buttock M W.

The Owner may have him again, on proving his Property, and paying Charges.

THERE is at the Plantation of William Marshall, in Frederick County, on Manockaff, taken up as a Stray, a small Bay Horse, about 12 Hands high, branded on the off Buttock B.

The Owner may have him again, on proving his Property, and paying Charges.

THERE is at the Plantation of Thomas Tennyally, in Frederick County, on Manockaff, taken up as a Stray, a White Mare, branded on the near Shoulder R, and on the Buttock W, and is about 13½ Hands high.

The Owner may have her again, on proving his Property, and paying Charges.

THERE is at the Plantation of William Graves, in Frederick County, on Manockaff, taken up as a Stray, a middle-fiz'd Dark Bay Mare, about 13 Hands high, branded on the off Thigh I P, and on the off Shoulder P, has a Star in her Forehead, and paces well.

The Owner may have her again, on proving his Property, and paying Charges.

THERE is at the Plantation of John Midgagh, in Frederick County, near Frederick-Town, a Red Bull, about three Years old, mark'd in the right Ear with a Crop, and a Slit in the Left.

The Owner may have him again, on proving his Property, and paying Charges.

INSPECTORS,