

CHARLES-TOWN (in South-Carolina) Feb. 27.  
*Extracts of Letters from Augusta.*  
 February 28th, 1760.

**M**ONDAY last, 4th Instant, we had a Letter from John Vann, who lived lately at Broad River, about 70 Miles from this Place, acquainting us that he was, 2d Instant, attacked by a Party of Cherokees at his own House, whom he (having six or eight Men with him, and his House strong) beat off, without any Damage on either Side; but, as he apprehended it dangerous either to continue there, or retreat without Assistance, he craved some from this Place, when several Gentlemen of the Troop, and of the Foot Militia, voluntarily offered their Service to cover his Retreat hither; they were joined by a Detachment of ten of Lieutenant Barnard's Rangers, in all about 40 Men, and set off the next Morning, about Ten o'Clock, lay that Night at one Mr. Dyas's, about 15 Miles off, and proceeded the next Morning, when they were joined by the aforesaid Mr. Vann, and 12 others, who had safely retreated as far as Mr. Germany's. — Mr. Vann's Retreat so far being safe, they came to a Resolution of putting in Execution what they had before designed, viz. that of going to Mr. Samuel Chew's, at Little River, about 30 Miles up the Country, where was the young Lieutenant of the Cowetaws, with a Party of Creeks, in order to sound their Dispositions, and make what Discoveries they could about the Cherokees. — In their March there they had several Informations, from both white People and Indians, that a large Party of Cherokees had two Days before taken Possession of Mr. Vann's House, and were on their March to Mr. Chew's, at Little River, where they were certainly to be that Day. — This Information did not in the least intimidate or deter them from putting their Resolution in Practice, but rather spurred them on. — On their Arrival at Mr. Chew's, about Three o'Clock in the Afternoon, they found an old Creek Fellow, called Old Ned, some young Fellows and Women (the young Lieutenant and a Dozen more being out on a hunting, or rather plundering the deserted Houses, and were not to return till Night, which obliged them to camp at Mr. Chew's, and wait the Lieutenant's Return.) Their former Informations of the Cherokees being to be at Chew's that Day, were now fully confirmed by those Creeks found there, as well as by the young Lieutenant when he came in, which obliged them to be all Night on their Guard, expecting every Moment when they should come to Action; but the rising of the River and Creeks, from the Abundance of Rain which fell that and the Day before, was supposed to be the only Thing that prevented their coming according to Expectation; and on Thursday Morning, 7th Inst. our Party set off for Augusta, where they arrived that Evening, their Scarcity both of Provisions and Ammunition making it absolutely necessary for them to do so, especially as they had completed the Business they went about.

The most material Discoveries made from those Creeks are as follow: Two large Parties of Cherokees are out, one on each Side of Savannah River; they design to scour the River on both Sides a good Way down, and to join below; upon which this Query was made, Whether their joining below was not to attack Augusta? To which they the Creeks replied, They could not say whether that was their Design or not: — That after they had done all the Mischief they could this Way, they were to return home to assist at the Siege of Forts Prince George and Loudoun: That a Party was gone out to Saluda, and a very large Body to the Northward: — That they had strongly solicited the Creeks not to join the white People: — That their making the late Peace was only to amuse, that they might get Ammunition and Goods, and be able more effectually to strike the Blow: That the Creek Nation in general would prefer a Neutrality. These, as well as I recollect, were the most material Discoveries made; there might have been some other immaterial ones, which I don't remember.

If my Capacity would permit me to do it, it would be too shocking to paint the melancholy Scenes that were presented to us in our little March. — Poor Families in Doves removing, not knowing where to go; several of them wounded and scalped, who were left by the Savages for dead, even little Infants two or three Years old; strong new made Houses, and well cultivated Plantations, the Effects of much Labour and Industry, deserted, with Plenty of Provisions exposed to the Fury and Flames of those Barbarians. — Surely we should be roused by the great Call of Nature to take ample Vengeance on those Destroyers of our Fellow Creatures; there is not a House or Plantation above Mr. Germany's, 15 Miles off, but what is desert.

ed. — Mr. McGillivray's Conduct in our March deserves Applause, as he not only marched his little Troop with as much Regularity and Judgment as an Officer better versed in Military Matters could have done, but he also took the utmost Pains to quiet the Minds of the poor People, under their wretched Circumstances. — Mr. Germany's House being very convenient to make a Stand at, we have given Encouragement to the People there to make a strong Puncheon Fort round it, which they have just finished, and have upwards of 50 Gunmen, besides 12 of Mr. Barnard's Rangers; they are supplied with Arms, Ammunition, &c. from the Gentlemen of this Place, who are now collecting the Provisions round about, and I hope will be able as well as willing to prevent the Enemy from spreading their Desolation lower down. — Advices just received from Savannah say, that Capt. Milledge, and Lieutenant Bailly, with 60 Rangers, are on their March hither; they are to act in Conjunction with the Rangers already here, and the Militia of this Place. — Doves of People from the other Side continually pass through Augusta for Fort Moore, and many from this Side for Augusta. — Mr. Outerbridge's humane Behaviour to them, especially the Wounded, is really amiable, as is his Conduct in Garrison as a vigilant and careful Officer. — I wish my next may be a more pleasing Letter than this.

March 1. Letters from Ninety-Six, dated the 22d of February, advise, that two Thirds of the Garrison there are down in the Small-Pox: That the Negro Man, belonging to Doctor John Murray, who was taken by the Indians when they attacked that Fort, had made his Escape, and returned thither: And that no Indians had been seen in that Neighbourhood since that Attack.

From Augusta and Fort Moore we learn, that Lieutenant Shaw and Ensign M'Intosh were arrived at those Forts with the Reinforcements sent thither: And that the Chickefaws had declared they would live and die by us, upon receiving a Talk delivered by Mr. McGillivray, and had even joined some of the Georgia scouting Parties.

Letters are just received from Fort Prince George, which are dated the 24th inst, and contain the following Advices, viz. That on the 16th, two Indian Wenches appearing on the River's Side at Keowee; Mr. Dougharty went out of the Fort to ask them [what News: That presently after the Great Warrior of Chote (Occunnastota) appeared, and desired that he would call the Commanding Officer of the Fort, and tell him he wanted to talk with him: That Dougharty accordingly did so; and Lieutenant Coytmore went to the Bank of the River, accompanied by Ensign Bell, said Dougharty, and forster the Interpreter: That the Great Warrior told Mr. Coytmore he intended to come down to the Governor, and would be glad to have a white Man to accompany him as a Safe-guard, having something of Consequence to impart: That Mr. Coytmore readily answered he should have one; whereupon the Great Warrior said he would go and catch a Horse for him; Mr. Coytmore told him he need not give himself that Trouble, but the Warrior said he would, and, while he was speaking, carelessly swung a Bridle (which he had as carelessly held in his Hand) thrice over his Head, upon which 25 or 30 Guns were immediately discharged at Mr. Coytmore and his Company, from different Ambuscades, where the Cherokees must have been placed before Day, and to whom the Shaking of the Bridle was a Signal; when Mr. Coytmore was shot thro' the left Breast, Mr. Bell in the Calf of his Leg, and Forster in the Buttock; Mr. Coytmore's Wound 'twas feared would prove mortal, but he was still alive when these Letters were dated: That Ensign Milln, who was left in the Fort, upon such a Piece of Treachery, judging it improper and unsafe for the Garrison, that the Hostages should continue any longer only confined to a Room, ordered the Soldiers to bind and put them in Irons: That the Soldiers accordingly set about executing these Orders, when the first who attempted to take Hold of an Indian was killed on the Spot, being struck with a Tomahawk on the Head, stabbed in the Belly with a Knife, and having his Jaw broke; and another was wounded in the Forehead also with a Tomahawk. This Outrage being committed directly after that upon Mr. Coytmore, so alarmed and highly incensed the Garrison, that it was thought expedient to put all the Hostages to Death immediately, which was done accordingly: That in the Evening some Indians came near the Fort, fired two Signal Guns, and several Times cried out in the Cherokee Language (not knowing what had happened) "Fight strong, and you shall be assisted;" soon

after which the Indians began and continued most Part of the Night firing on all Sides upon the Fort, but did no Damage: That hence 'twas suspected, that it had been concerted between the Hostages within, and their Friends without, to attack and massacre the Garrison that Night, which Suspicion was confirmed the next Day; for, upon searching the Apartment in which the Hostages lay, there were found, besides a Bottle of Poison (doubtless designed to have been emptied into the Well) several Tomahawks buried in the Earth, which their Friends who were suffered to visit them must have privately conveyed thither; so in all Probability the putting the Hostages to Death has proved a very critical Event, while the Garrison are freed of future Apprehensions from within. Our further Advices are, that tho' the Garrison had been very sickly, and lost 15 Men, yet the rest were then in a good Way, and had Plenty of every Thing but Fire-wood: That Otasitte (the Round-O) was dead of the Small-Pox: And that all was well at Fort Loudoun the 8th of February.

March 5. On Sunday the 2d Instant, we were favoured with the following Advices from the Cherokees, viz.

Fort-Loudoun, Feb. 8. "We can make a Shift for four Months, in which Time we hope for Relief. We hope the Provinces will exert their Force to secure themselves, and relieve us; it would be hard to be abandoned to the merciless Savages. These Upper Towns are kept peaceable by the Little Carpenter, that is, so far as regards this Fort, and the Pack-horsmen living in their Towns. The Indians resort to the Fort as usual, and barter Fowls, Corn, Potatoes, &c. for such Trifles as they can pick up among the Soldiers; yet the Carpenter's Authority and Assiduity was not able to restrain the Settaco People from going out in two Parties against the Settlements of Virginia, and will doubtless do much Mischief. We have no Intelligence here but from the Indians, for since the Governor left Keowee we have had no Communication with any Part of the King's Dominions. This Day Occunnastota (the Great Warrior) sets out for Keowee, to demand three Fellows belonging to the Overhill Towns, detained there as Hostages; this comes by a white Man who accompanies him. We are providing here for the worst, and have prevailed upon two Men to set off to Virginia through the Woods, who are to spread the Alarm."

His Excellency Governor Lyttelton, we hear, will sail for Great-Britain about the 20th Instant, in his Majesty's Ship Trent, commanded by John Lindsey, Esq;

We hear from the Fort at Ninety-six, that the two Indian Prisoners formerly mentioned, endeavoured to make their Escape on the Night of the 22d ult. which one of them accomplished, and got clear off; but the other was shot and scalped; a Messenger was dispatched immediately to Congaree, and we hear Captain Grennen with 36 Rangers was to be at Ninety-six on Sunday last; the People there have now got a Well of excellent Water within the Fort.

Pine-tree-hill, Waterces, Feb. 22. "Colonel Richardson is now here, making a Draught of three or four Companies to relieve the People pent up in Forts on Broad-river. We are now capable of making a good Defence. No Mischief has yet been done near us. Last Saturday two Men were killed high up on this River. Some of the Inhabitants on Rocky-river have had a Skirmish, in which they were victorious, and brought off 2 Indian Scalps."

We hear Colonel Richardson was to march into the Cherokee Nation with a Body of 500 Men at least, mostly Volunteers, while the Rangers are to protect the Settlements against scalping Parties of the Indians.

PERTH-AMBOY, March 25. This Day his Excellency the Governor was pleased to give his Assent to the following Act, in the Presence of the Council and General Assembly, viz.

An Act for raising One Thousand effective Volunteers (Officers included) for his Majesty's Service in the ensuing Campaign, and making Provision for the same; and for other Purposes therein mentioned.

ANNA POLIS, April 10. We hear that the Brigantine Pitt, Capt. Curle, belonging to this Place, and bound from hence to North-Carolina, with a Cargo of Madeira Wines, Bread, Flour, &c. was cast away and lost on the Coast of Carolina, in the remarkable Snow Storm we had here on the 9th and 10th of March past: No Lives lost, but the People almost perished.

Tuesday last the Provincial Court met: We hear that the Grand Jury have found a Bill against

a Man from Dorchester for committing a heinous and barbarous a mention.

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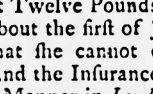
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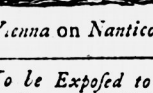
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