

Last Friday his excellency the governor having directed the secretary to acquaint the two houses that it was his pleasure the general assembly should be dissolved, and so declare the same dissolved accordingly; the secretary went to the court house, and finding the door of the representatives chamber locked, directed the messenger to go in and acquaint the speaker that the secretary had a message from his excellency to the honourable house, and desired he might be admitted to deliver it; the messenger returned, and said he had acquainted the speaker therewith, who mentioned it to the house, and their orders were to keep the door fast: whereupon the following proclamation was published on the stairs leading to the representatives chamber, in presence of several members of the house, and a great number of other persons, and immediately after, in council.

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.
By the GOVERNOR.

A proclamation for dissolving the general court.

WHEREAS the proceedings of the house of representatives, in the present session of the general court, make it necessary, for his majesty's service, that the said general court should be dissolved.

I have therefore thought fit to dissolve the said general court, and the same is hereby dissolved accordingly, and the members thereof are discharged from any further attendance.

Given under my hand at Salem, the 17th day of June, 1774, in the fourteenth year of his majesty's reign.

By his excellency's command, } T. GAGE.
THOMAS FLUCKER, secretary.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

PHILADELPHIA.

At a very large and respectable meeting of the freeholders and freemen of the city and county of Philadelphia, on Saturday, June 18, 1774.

Thomas Willing, John Dickinson, Esquires, chairmen.

RESOLVED,

I. THAT the act of parliament, for shutting up the port of Boston, is unconstitutional; oppressive to the inhabitants of that town; dangerous to the liberties of the British colonies; and that, therefore, we consider our brethren, at Boston, as suffering in the common cause of America.

II. That a congress of deputies from the several colonies, in North-America, is the most probable and proper mode of procuring relief for our suffering brethren, obtaining redress of American grievances, securing our rights and liberties, and re-establishing peace and harmony between Great-Britain and these colonies, on a constitutional foundation.

III. That a large and respectable committee be immediately appointed for the city and county of Philadelphia, to correspond with the sister colonies and with the several colonies in this province, in order that all may unite in promoting and endeavouring to attain the great and valuable ends mentioned in the foregoing resolution.

IV. That the committee nominated by this meeting shall consult together, and on mature deliberation determine, what is the most proper mode of collecting the sense of this province, and appointing deputies for the same, to attend a general congress; and having determined thereupon, shall take such measures, as by them shall be judged most expedient, for procuring this province to be represented at the said congress, in the best manner that can be devised for promoting the public welfare.

V. That the committee be instructed immediately to set on foot a subscription for the relief of such poor inhabitants of the town of Boston, as may be deprived of the means of subsistence by the operation of the act of parliament, commonly stiled the *Boston port bill*. The money arising from such subscription to be laid out as the committee shall think will best answer the ends proposed.

VI. That the committee consist of forty-three persons, viz. John Dickinson, Edward Pennington, John Nixon, Thomas Willing, George Clymer, Samuel Howell, Joseph Read, John Roberts, (miller,) Thomas Wharton, jun. Charles Thomson, Jacob Barge, Thomas Barclay, William Rush, Robert Smith, (carpenter,) Thomas Fitzsimons, George Roberts, Samuel Ervin, Thomas Miffin, John Cox, George Gray, Robert Morris, Samuel Miles, John M. Nesbit, Peter Chevalier, William Moulder, Joseph Moulder, Anthony Morris, jun. John Allen, Jeremiah Warder, jun. Rev. D. William Smith, Paul Engle, Thomas Penrose, James Meafe, Benjamin Marshall, Reuben Haines, John Bayard, Jonathan B. Smith, Thomas Wharton, Isaac Howell, Michael Hillegas, Adam Hubley, George Schlosser, and Christopher Ludwick.

My FRIENDS and FELLOW CITIZENS!

A FEW days will present you with an opportunity of displaying the most noble beneficence and exalted humanity in the cause of liberty and virtue. It cannot be doubted, that the operation of the cruel edict, against the town of Boston, will expose its inhabitants, your brethren, fellow subjects and Americans, to the dreadful dangers of penury and want. The voice of freedom in distress is a sound which, I trust, no American can hear unmoved: think, my dear fellow citizens, what would be your own expectations, if pressed by the immediate hand of power, your streets should echo with the cries of the labouring poor and industrious tradesmen, the widow, and the orphan, lacking bread: how would you look round with anxious eyes upon those, whom the policy of a vindictive minister had yet enabled to administer to your wants? how would their bounty, like the gentle dew of heaven, cheer your drooping spirits, and dispel the dreadful gloom: the distressed of Boston have a peculiar claim upon all, who have recommended firmness, prudence, and moderation; they must be enabled to follow this advice, and exercise their virtues: the common interests of American liberty oppose their prostration at the feet

of a haughty and unfeeling minister; the dignity of the cause cannot be sullied by hasty and precipitate measures: Is it not then our duty and our interest, with a liberality becoming freemen, to support them in the hour of distress, and while we are uniting for the benefit of all, to guard them against that desperation, whose effects will be pernicious to all. Indeed, my fellow citizens, this is probably but a part of that scene in which we shall be called to act, or suffer; it is so most assuredly, if that devoted town deserted and forsaken should, in the agonies of hunger and want, sink under the load, or burst forth in a desperate effort to throw it off. Policy, humanity, the love of liberty and our country, and every principle that can enoble the human mind, are now called forth into action; but in a manner which the most peacable cannot disapprove, and the most animated cannot err or mislead: if any lurking prejudices or remembrances of former hardships hang upon any of our minds, how noble, how magnanimous will it appear to cast them far behind us.—To shew the world, that like Christians indeed, we can not only forget and forgive, but lead the way in one great collected effort of public virtue and benevolence—that no partial views, or private resentments can check the generous impulse arising from violated rights and insulted patriotism. That man must be unworthy, or insensible of the honour derived from the rank of a freeman, who can withhold his mite from such accumulated distress; but I am sure this public-spirited city can need no stimulus on this occasion.—We shall inspire our suffering brethren with sentiments of the most tender confidence, and affectionate gratitude, pour oil and balsam into their bleeding wounds:—when the ear hears of us, it shall bless us, and when the eye sees us, it shall bear witness: because we delivered the poor that cried—the fatherless, and those who had none to help them. The widow's heart shall sing for joy, and the blessings of those, who are ready to perish, shall come upon us.

NORFOLK, May 31, 1774.

A letter to the inhabitants of Charles Town.

GENTLEMEN,

THE occasion is too serious to admit of apologies for this unfolicited communication of our sentiments to you, at this alarming crisis to American freedom; for the time is come, the unhappy era is arrived, when the closest union among ourselves, and the firmest confidence in each other, are our only securities for those rights, which as men and freemen, we derive from nature and the constitution. The late hostile parliamentary invasion of the town of Boston, we deem an attack upon the liberties of us all. Of the particulars of that unhappy transaction, we presume, you are already fully informed, and we doubt not shudder with us at this systematic mode of depriving the unrepresented American of his rights and possessions, and vesting the crown with such despotic power over the free-born inhabitants of the capital of the Massachusetts-Bay. What measures are most proper to be adopted on this sad occasion we are at a loss to point out; but we look to the wisdom of your city, in conjunction with the other large commercial towns on this continent, to take more immediately the lead in these important matters, and to fix upon such expedients in the regulation of trade, as may be most productive of relief to our suffering brethren of Boston, and the general establishment of the rights of these colonies; and you may rest assured, that in every measure conducive to this grand continental object, you will always meet with our most hearty concurrence. We are under great apprehensions for the people of Boston, lest, they may sink under the weight of their misfortunes; and at the same time that we highly approve of the expediency of a congress, as proposed by several of the colonies, we think the trading part of the community ought particularly to interfere, for nothing but the most speedy and efficacious measures can relieve them; and if after all, there should be found an unhappy necessity to reimburse the India company for that just punishment they received for their ungenerous attempts on our liberties; we trust there is no inhabitant of these colonies, who feels and thinks himself a freeman, but will cheerfully put his hand to his purse, and join in the general expence. Inclosed we transmit to you the proceedings of the inhabitants of the borough of Norfolk and Town of Portsmouth, together with letters and other papers from Boston, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, as also copies of the resolutions and other proceedings of the members of our late house of burgesses both before and after their dissolution. We hope to be able to inform you more particularly of the collected sense of the trade of this colony at the general meeting of the merchants next week at Williamsburg, when we expect further dispatches from the Northward. We hope the favour of a free and full communication of your sentiments on this important occasion, and trust that your flourishing and respectable province will still continue their generous endeavours for the establishment of the rights of the colonies, that the opposition of all America may be as extensive as the oppression. With the warmest attachment to the interests of the colonies, we are

Gentlemen, most respectfully,
your most obedient servants,

THOMAS-NEWTON, jun.
JOSEPH HUTCHINGS,
PAUL LOYALL,
ALEXANDER LOVE,
SAMUEL INGLIS,
JOHN GREENWOOD,
ALEXANDER SKINNER,
WILLIAM HARVEY,
NIEL JAMIESON.

A true copy, WILLIAM DAVIES, Clk. Com.

Letter from the committee of Norfolk and Portsmouth to the Baltimore committee of correspondence.

GENTLEMEN, NORFOLK, June 2, 1774.

WE acknowledge receipt of your interesting favour, and hope you will still continue to communicate your sentiments to us on the important sub-

ject of your letter, in the freest and fullest manner; we are happy in so general a concurrence in opinion; you, and are ready to unite in any measures that may generally thought for the advantage of the colonies, and the relief of our unhappy brethren of Boston; we sympathize most sincerely with them in their sufferings, our hearts are warmed with affection for them; and trust they will never be deserted, nor left the solitary strugglers against arbitrary power. The act for blocking up their harbour and stopping their trade, and a bill for altering and amending the charter of the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, which lord North has brought into the house of commons, we view as strokes to the liberties of these colonies, and as a robbery of our rights; but we rest with a firm reliance that the paltry policy, of attacking a town province singly, will never unhappily delude us, to disunite us from that joint, firm, and universal position of all British America which we trust will always render abortive every such pernicious measure. As we have had occasion to write to South Carolina previous to this our earliest opportunity of answering your favour, we transmit you a copy of that letter which you may please to communicate as you may proper. You have also inclosed some other papers from which you will be fully sensible, that we are ready to join in any measures for the public good. We are with great esteem and regard,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient
humble servants,

JOSEPH HUTCHINGS,
ALEXANDER SKINNER,
JAMES TAYLOR,
PAUL LOYALL,
WILLIAM HARVEY,
WILLIAM DAVIES, Clk.

A true copy,

Letter from the committee of Norfolk and Portsmouth to the Bolton committee.

GENTLEMEN,

NORFOLK, June 3, 1774.

WE gladly take this first opportunity of assuring our brethren of Bolton on this melancholy occasion, that we are not indifferent spectators of the distressing situation, under the present cruel exertions of British power, to support an edict calculated to ruin their trade, and for ever subject a very considerable property to the arbitrary pleasure of the crown. Our bosoms glow with tender regard for you; we sympathize with you in your sufferings, and thought it our duty devoutly to observe the appointment of the first of June as a day of fasting and prayer, solemnly to address to Almighty ruler to support you in your afflictions, and to remove from our sovereign, those pernicious counsellors that have been the wicked instruments of your oppression. Be assured we consider you as suffering in the common cause, and look upon ourselves as bound by the most sacred and solemn ties, to support you in every measure that shall be found necessary to regain your just rights and privileges.—As we have had occasion to communicate our sentiments to Charles-Town and Baltimore, we refer you to those letters and the other papers transmitted to you; and although we are not one of the larger commercial towns on the continent, yet as the trade is more collected here, than in any other place of this well watered and extensive dominion, we thought it our duty to communicate what we apprehend to be the sense of the mercantile part of the community among us.

That the Almighty arm may support you and shield you in the hour of danger, is the fervent prayer of,

Gentlemen,

Your affectionate brethren,

THOMAS NEWTON, jun.
JOSEPH HUTCHINGS,
MATTHEW PHRIPE,
SAMUEL KER,
ROBERT SHEDDEN,
HENRY BROWN,
ALEXANDER SKINNER,
THOMAS BROWN,
ROBERT TAYLOR.

A true copy,

WILLIAM DAVIES, Clk.

ANNAPOLIS, July 7.

Mr. Thompson's reply to Mr. Buchanan will be in our next CUSTOM-HOUSE.

ENTERED.

Sloop Two Brothers, George North, from St. Martin's Ship Thornton, John Kid, from London. Sloop Speedwell, Peleg Winflow, from North-Carolina. Schooner Elizabeth, Josiah Godfrey, from Salem. Ship Baltimore Packet, Alexander Kennedy, from Newry. Schooner Priscilla, William Wise, from Philadelphia.

CLEARED.

Brig Sally Van, George Rofs, for Jamaica. Snow Catharine, Nicholas Fortune, for Cadiz. Sloop Mary, Samuel Rayment, for North-Carolina. Ship Charles, Charles Reily, for Liverpool. Schooner Industry, William Woolfey, for Cork.

July 1, 1774.

ALL persons who have any just claims against the estate of John Giffitt, late of Anne-Arundel county, deceased, are desired to bring in their accounts legally proved, and all those indebted to said estate, are requested to make immediate payment. 3
(300) NICHOLAS WORTHINGTON, Executor.

To be sold by the subscriber, to the highest bidder, at Humphrey Godman's tavern, about seven miles above Bladensburg, on Friday the 22d of July, if fair, if not, the next fair day,

PARCEL of likely young negroes, consisting of men, women, and children. Reasonable credit will be allowed to the purchasers, on giving bond on interest, with good security.

SAMUEL WARD, jun.

THE subscriber has a quantity of flour, and is desirous to inform his friends of all sorts of goods, those who please, may at any time, call on him, at the best ship-bread.

OST on Monday, between Lyon's creek and the river, containing a book, containing a list of names, which can be of no use, unless you find it. The book is bound in red cloth, and is of the size of a pocket-book, and is for sale at the price of one pound, paid by the subscriber.

COMMITTEE of the negro Ned, who was taken up in Pennsylvania, and is now in the hands of the sheriff of the county of York, and is for sale at the price of one pound, paid by the subscriber.

FIVE POUNDS WENT AWAY, English service, well made, and is for sale at the price of one pound, paid by the subscriber.

N. B. There is a man, who is for sale at the price of one pound, paid by the subscriber.

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LAND TWO tracts of land, one of three acres and the other of one acre, and is for sale at the price of one pound, paid by the subscriber.

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