

Asia, George Vandeput, Esq; commander. Capt. Fenton from Coraco, the 11th instant, in lat. 35 30 saw a ship in great distress, but the sea ran so high he could afford her no assistance: she had lost her fore and main masts about half down, and the mizen quite gone: she had a round-hull, with a red wash-board, green quarter-gallery, a white figure head, and a yawl on the bows, with a white bottlen.

Sept. 28. As a proof of the great pains taken by a wicked ministry, to prejudice not only the English, but by their emissaries abroad, the other nations of Europe, against the persecuted Americans; the following extract of a letter lately received from Amsterdam, has been communicated to us.—“If half the cruelties which we find in our public papers, as perpetrated by the Americans upon the English who fall in their hands are true, it is sufficient to make any who possess the least humanity, to abhor their proceedings.”

Extra of a letter from Mr. Walter Livingston, deputy commissary general, dated at Albany; the 20th or the 21st inst. September, 1775, to a gentleman in New-York.

“General Montgomery is by this time, either in possession of St. John's, or defeated. He embarked with eleven or twelve hundred men, and a party of Canadians, who came to the Isle au Noix, to join our army, the number is not mentioned. Mr. Livingston of Montreal, with a party of Canadians, attacked the king's troops, killed twelve, and drove off the remainder. He has sent for some men to the Isle au Noix, and they are granted him.

Extra of a letter from an officer at the Isle au Noix, dated September 17, 1775.

“I have just time to acquaint you that to-morrow we intend to strike a decisive blow at St. John's. We have already had two skirmishes. In the first we lost seven men, besides six or seven wounded. Our enemy had 9 Indians killed on the spot, with twice as many wounded, as we are informed.

“The savages seem barbarous to the last degree; not content with scalping, they dug up our dead, and mangled them in the most shocking manner. I had the pleasure to see two of them scalped, as a retaliation for their barbarity. This happened after our last action, in which none of us were hurt. An armed boat, which threw shells and grape shot briskly at us for some time, though without doing mischief, was fortunately divided by a salute from a twelve pounder from one of our gondolas. It is said there were thirty regulars in the boat, who all perished, either by the shot or in the lake. The chief obstacle we shall meet with to-morrow will be a strong schooner, which we are determined to board. She mounts eighteen nine pounders, and was launched but two days before we took possession of the island. How this enterprize will succeed God only knows, but I still have hopes to see you and all my friends once more at New York.”

Extra of a letter from a gentleman in Albany, dated September 22.

“There is a report in town, that 2000 Canadians have posted themselves between St. John's and Montreal, to cut off the communication between the town and Carleton's garrison. The intelligence is almost too good till further confirmed.”

PHILADELPHIA, September 25.

Extra of a letter, dated Pall-Mall, July 8.

“I am happy you are settled in Philadelphia, a city that is and shall be blest. The great founder, Penn, was inspired with true wisdom, and God gave him a heart to form a city and colony for a refuge to the persecuted assertors of the rights of human nature at this day; when it is the determination of administration, at least part of them, with the king, to destroy such towns as lay on the sea. But don't be frightened or deceived, they cannot accomplish their horrid schemes. Your securing of Concord and Crown-Point has overthrown their designs, and now in revenge they say we will destroy their towns. You see by this what you are to expect. The heart of Pharaoh is hardened, and the chariot will be driven so fast that the wheels will fly off in a sea of blood.

“Our worthy Lord Mayor has exerted himself abundantly. He has called a common hall of the livery and held a common council at three different times, and sent up a petition and remonstrance; and this day the proceedings of the city are in the press to be published to all the counties in England, and our patriots, with an American bravery, are determined to protest against the doings of the parliament and enter into an association. They have drawn up very spirited resolves. But as yet you must have patience. Great bodies move slow! The people of England have long been inured to oppression, and are not so quick in their feelings as the Americans. They are indeed more moderate, but have already discovered their abhorrence to the plans of the tyrants in such a manner as to make them repent they laid them; and in a few months, should there be no submission on your side (which God grant there may not) they will call home Gage and let you alone a while, as they cannot get men to go on so horrid an errand. The officers hear that the riflemen intend killing them only, which is most excellent news, as it not only discourages the officers but makes the soldiers think well of the Americans, as they hate their officers and will certainly desert if they have opportunity. It is not England but only eight ministers of state with the king and his tools in parliament, that are fighting against you, and use every unfair means to deceive the people of England. I understand fort Ticonderoga is to be retaken by Carleton, who has 1000 Scots Highlanders sent over to him, commanded by Col. Murray, with 2000 more who are now encamped in Scotland: this you may depend on.

“Our wise ministry, in order to deceive the people, circulate false reports in the papers and otherwise every day both for and against the Americans; that arms minds may be so confounded they will not know what to depend upon; but you may depend upon it, that should it cost all the blood and treasure of Old England, they would prosecute their efforts to subdue you. Even the officers who are to execute their plans are ignorant of their ultimate designs.

“They now give out that lord Chatham is to be called in to head a new administration, and that a new system of politics is to take place; but nothing can be

can come into their views, and those views being the possession of place, power, and treasure, they will never give them up as long as they can possibly hold them. They have brought the king so far into their measures, that he cannot recede; so that they are now together in the place where they will remain till your wisdom and bravery shew the people of England that tyrants are to be got at by very simple means.

“No statute can be made to put arms into the hands of Roman Catholics, and, in consequence, if you could procure proof that general Carleton has done this, and convey that evidence to this city, you would find the great cause brought to issue here in a few months, *sat verbum!* Your salvation depends on your firmness and assiduity. If you submit, sixty of you are to be hanged in Philadelphia, and the same number in New-York: 500 pounds is offered for capt. Lear's head in particular; a secret order.”

Extra of a letter from London, July 22, 1775.

“The conduct of the brave New-Englanders and the steady wisdom and firmness of the congress, rejoice the hearts of all who are alike disposed on this side the water. Should matters draw towards a compromise, I scarcely think it necessary to put you on your guard. The congress has hitherto exhibited such proofs of wisdom and foresight, that I think there is little danger of their being overreached. With respect to England and France, you know it has often been remarked, that the former have been victorious in the field, but the latter have prevailed in the cabinet. You are as yet unpractised in the intrigues of courts, but you cannot be ignorant, from the specimens that have of late been exhibited of the designs of this court, that your dependence on any privileges worth contending for, is not on your own internal political strength, and I doubt not but the congress will have wisdom enough to conduct their measures accordingly. The period I speak of, may perhaps be so remote, that you may consider it as talking of things at a great distance; there can however be no harm in putting you early upon guard. At present they talk of, I don't know what; sometimes of applying to the empress of Russia for 30,000 men; sometimes to the King general for 15,000. At the same time they pretend to disclaim the idea of subduing America. So, before lord North's famous conciliatory motion, they disclaimed all notions of an American revenue, it was only the supremacy of parliament they contended for; but behold, then it was only revenue. In short, there is no lie they are not capable of framing, if it can in any wise conduce to answering their present purpose. This is subastition, at any rate, depend upon it, if it can possibly be effected; if not, no doubt they will put upon it the best face they can; but it is your part to be prepared. If what I heard to-day, viz. that press warrants were sent out to America a fortnight ago, is true, you will know before this reaches you. This is certain, that an express arrived at the secretary of state's office yesterday from the governor of Gibraltar, expressing his anxiety on account of the armament of Spain, particularly the fleet in the Mediterranean, which has thrown them into great consternation. Let us hope, that something will at last bring them to their senses.”

The following LETTERS are published by order of the Honourable CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

“SIR, Head quarters, Cambridge, Aug. 11. “I UNDERSTAND that the officers engaged in the cause of liberty and their country, who by the fortune of war have fallen into your hands, have been thrown, indiscriminately, into a common jail appropriated for felons—that no consideration has been had for those of the most respectable rank, when languishing with wounds and sickness—that some of them have even amputated in this unworthy situation.

“Let your opinion, sir, of the principle which actuates them be what it may, they suppose they act from the noblest of all principles, a love of freedom and their country. But political opinions, I conceive, are foreign to this point. The obligations arising from the rights of humanity, and claims of rank, are universally binding and extensive, except in case of retaliation. These, I should have hoped, would have dictated a more tender treatment of those individuals whom chance or war had put in your power. Nor can I forbear suggesting its fatal tendency to widen that unhappy breach, which you, and those ministers under whom you act, have repeatedly declared you wish to see for ever closed.

“My duty now makes it necessary to apprise you, that for the future I shall regulate my conduct towards those gentlemen who are, or may be, in our possession, exactly by the rule you shall observe towards those of ours now in your custody.

“If severity and hardship mark the line of your conduct (painful as it may be to me) your prisoners will feel its effects, but if kindness and humanity are shewn to ours, I shall with pleasure consider those in our hands only as unfortunate, and they shall receive from me that treatment to which the unfortunate are ever intitled.

“I beg to be favoured with an answer as soon as possible, and am, sir, your very humble servant, GEORGE WASHINGTON.” His Excellency General GAGE.

“SIR, Boston, Aug. 13. “To t. a glory of civilized nations, humanity and war have been compatible; and compassion to the subdued is become almost a general system.

“Britons, ever pre-eminent in mercy, have outgone common examples, and overlooked the criminal in the captive. Upon these principles, your prisoners, whose lives by the laws of the land are destined to the cord, have hitherto been treated with care and kindness, and more comfortably lodged than the king's troops in the hospitals; indiscriminately it is true, for I acknowledge no rank that is not derived from the king.

“My intelligence from your army would justify severe reprimand. I understand there are of the king's faithful subjects, taken some time since by the rebels, labouring like negro-slaves to gain their daily subsistence, or reduced to the wretched alternative, to perish by famine, or take arms, against their king or country. Those, who have made the treatment of the prisoners in my hands, or of your other friends in Boston, a pretence for such measures, found barbarity upon false-

liberality which I have always believed you to possess, will be exerted to correct these misdoings. Be temperate in political disquisition; give free operation to truth, and punish those who deceive and misrepresent, and not only the effects, but the causes of this unhappy conflict will be removed.

“Should those, under whose usurped authority you act, controul such a disposition and dare to call severity retaliation to God who knows all hearts, be the appeal for the dreadful consequences. I trust that British soldiers, asserting the rights of the state, the laws of the land, the being of the constitution, will meet all events with becoming fortitude. They will court victory with the spirit their cause inspires, and from the same motive will find the patience of martyrs under misfortune.

“Till I read your insinuations in regard to ministers I conceived that I had acted under the king; whose wishes, it is true, as well as those of his ministers, and of every honest man, have been to see, this unhappy breach for ever closed; but unfortunately for both countries those who long since projected the present crisis, and influence the councils of America, have views very distant from accommodation.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant, GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq; THOMAS GAGE.”

“SIR, Head Quarters, Cambridge, Aug. 29.

“I addressed you on the 11th instant in terms which gave the fairest scope for the exercise of that humanity and politeness, which were supposed to form a part of your character. I remonstrated with you on the unworthy treatment shewn to the officers and citizens of America, whom the fortune of war, chance, or a mistaken confidence, had thrown into your hands.

“Whether British or American mercy, fortitude, and patience are most pre eminent; whether our virtuous citizens, whom the hand of tyranny has forced into arms to defend their wives, their children, and their property, or the mercenary instruments of lawless domination, avarice, and the punishment of that cord, which your affected clemency has forbore to inflict; whether the authority, under which I act, is usurped, or founded upon the genuine principles of liberty, were altogether foreign to the subject. I purposely avoided all political disquisition; nor shall I now avail myself of those advantages, which the sacred cause of my country, of liberty, and human nature give me over you, much less shall I stoop to retort and invective. But the intelligence you say you have received from our army requires a reply. I have taken time to make a strict enquiry, and find it has not the least foundation in truth. Not only your officers and soldiers have been treated with a tenderness due to fellow-citizens and brethren, but even those execrable paricides whose councils and aid have deluged their country with blood have been protected from the fury of a justly enraged people. Far from compelling or permitting their assistance, I am embarrassed with the numbers who crowd to our camp, animated with the purest principles of virtue and love of their country. You advise me to give free operation to truth, to punish misrepresentation and falsehood. If experience stamps value upon counsel, yours must have a weight which few can claim. You best can tell how far the convulsion, which has brought such ruin on both countries, and shaken the mighty empire of Britain to its foundation, may be traced to these malignant causes.

“You affect, sir, to despise all rank not derived from the same source with your own. I cannot conceive one more honourable than that which flows from the uncorrupted choice of a brave and free people, the purest source and original fountain of all power. Far from making it a plea for cruelty, a mind of true magnanimity and enlarged ideas would comprehend and respect it.

“What may have been the ministerial views, which have precipitated the present crisis, Lexington, Concord, and Charlestown can best declare. May that God to whom you then appealed judge between America and you. Under his providence, those who influence the councils of America, and all the other inhabitants of the united colonies, at the hazard of their lives, are determined to hand down to posterity those just and invaluable privileges which they received from their ancestors.

“I shall now, sir, close my correspondence with you perhaps for ever. If your officers or prisoners, receive a treatment from me different from what I wished to shew them, they and you will remember the occasion of it.

I am, sir, your very humble servant, GEORGE WASHINGTON.” GEN. GAGE.

From Virginia we learn that, several letters from governor Martin of North-Carolina to different persons, have been lately intercepted, in which he discovers the most implacable animosity and desire of commencing hostilities against that province. In a letter to the Hon. Henry White of New-York dated the 13th of June last, he mentions his having wrote to him some time before for a royal standard, and desires he will take care to send it with a good tent and all the necessary furniture.

Sept. 30. The New-York post, which arrived this afternoon, has brought the August packet, by which we have received advices to the first of that month. The London Chronicle of the 20th of July contains general Gage's account of the battle at Bunker's-Hill, in which he says he has had nineteen commissioned officers killed, and seventy wounded; sixteen non-commissioned officers killed, and fifty-two wounded; one hundred and ninety-one privates killed, and seven hundred and six wounded. Administration, in order to amuse the people, has given out that the Americans had five thousand killed and taken. From the papers brought by that packet are extracted the following paragraphs.

L O N D O N.

July 31. His Majesty's council was this day pleased to order, that the parliament, which stands prorogued to Thursday the 27th instant, should be farther prorogued to Thursday the fourteenth of September next.

Aug. 1. It is said that clothing for 3000 troops, Canadians, was sent off yesterday, and that the same contractor has orders for fitting up 7000 more with all possible dispatch.

We are assured that a subsidiary treaty has been entered into these six weeks past with a German prince for ten thousand of his troops to be transported to New-York and Boston by the end of August. Such trans-

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