

Annapolis, Nov. 5, 1775.
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(XXXI YEAR)

T H E

[No. 1385.] 13

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, JANUARY 25, 1776.

CAMBRIDGE, January 4, 1776.

The following is a copy of Dr. Church's much talked of traitorous letter to a ministerial officer in Boston, dated July 23, 1775.

HOPE this will reach you; three attempts have I made without success, in effecting the last the man was discovered in attempting his escape; but fortunately my letter was sewed in the waistband of his breeches; he was confined a few days, during which time you may guess my feelings; but a little art and a little cash settled the matter. 'Tis a month since my return from Philadelphia. I went by way of Providence to visit mother. The committee for warlike stores made me a formal tender of 12 pieces of cannon, 18 and 24 pounders. They having— to a previous resolution to make the offer to general Ward; to make a merit of my services I sent them down; and when they received them they sent them to stoutton to be out of danger, even though they had formed the resolution, as I before hinted, of fortifying Bunker's Hill; which, together with the cowardice of the clumsy col. Gerrih, and col. Scammon, were the lucky occasion of their defeat. This affair happened before my return from Philadelphia. We lost 165 men killed then; and since dead of their wounds: 130 now lay wounded, the chief will recover. They boast you have 1400 killed and wounded in that action. You say the rebels lost 1500, I suppose with equal truth. The people of Connecticut are raving in the cause of liberty. A number from this colony, from the town of Stamford, robbed the king's stores at New-York, with some small assistance the New-Yorkers lent them. These were growing turbulent. I counted 285 pieces of cannon, from 24 to 3 pounders, at Kingsbridge, which the committee had secured for the use of the colonies. The Jerseys are not a whit behind Connecticut in zeal; the Philadelphians, exceed them both. I saw 2200 men in review there by general Lee, consisting of Quakers and other inhabitants, in uniform, with 1000 rifle-men, and 40 horse; who together, made a most warlike appearance, I mingled freely and frequently with the members of the continental congress. They were united, determined in opposition, and appeared assured of success. Now to come home: The opposition is become formidable; 18,000 men, brave and determined, with Washington and Lee at their head, are no contemptible enemy. Adjutant-general Gates is indefatigable in arranging the army. Provisions are very plenty. Cloaths are manufacturing in every town for the soldiers. Twenty tons of powder lately arrived at Philadelphia, Connecticut, and Providence. Upwards of twenty tons are now in camp. Salt-petres made in every colony; powder mills are erected, and constantly employed, in Philadelphia and New-York. Volunteers of the first fortune are daily flocking to the camp; 1000 rifle-men in two or three days. Recruits are now levying to augment the army to 22,000 men. Ten thousand militia are appointed in this province, to appear on the first summons. The bills of all the colonies circulate freely, and are readily exchanged for cash. Add to this, that unless some plan of accommodation takes place immediately, these harbours will swarm with privaters. An army will be raised in the middle provinces to take possession of Canada. For the sake of the miserable convulsed empire, solicit peace, repeal the acts, or Britain is undone. This advice is the result of warm affection to my king and to the realm. Remember I never deceived you; every article here sent you is sacredly true. The papers will announce to you that I am again a member for Boston. You will there see our motley council. A general arrangement of officers will take place except the chief, which will be suspended but for a little while to see what part Britain takes in consequence of the late continental petition. A view to independence grows more and more general. Should Britain declare war against the colonies, they are lost for ever. Should Spain declare against England, the colonies will declare a neutrality, which will doubtless produce an offensive and defensive league between them. For God's sake prevent it by a speedy accommodation. Writing this has employed a day. I have been at Salem to reconnoitre, but I could not escape the geese of the capitol. To-morrow I set out for Newport on purpose to send you this. I write you fully, it being scarcely possible to escape discovery, I am out of place here by choice, and therefore out of pay; and determine so to be, unless something is offered in my way. I wish you would contrive to write me freely in cypher, by the way of Newport, addressed to Thomas Richards, merchant, inclose it in a cover to me, intimating that I am a perfect stranger to you; but being recommended to you as a gentleman of honour, you took the liberty of inclosing that letter, intreating me to deliver it as directed; the person, as you are informed, being at Cambridge. Sign some fictitious name. This you may send to some confidential friend at Newport, to be delivered to me at Watertown. Make use of every precaution, or I perish.

A gentleman who came passenger in a transport which arrived at Boston last week from London, informs that 26 sail of vessels laden with stores and provisions were, when he left England, sailed or sitting out for Boston, for the support of the garrison the present winter; but that no troops may be expected before the spring; and that 10 fine large sheep were brought out in the vessel in which he came passenger; but that only two of them were carried into Boston alive. We are credibly informed, that the ministerial troops in Boston are dying fast with the Curvy; that it is adjudged their stores cannot hold them many weeks longer, and that their fuel cannot last them but about six days.

It is confidently reported that general Howe is come to the determination of sending out of Boston all those who refuse to take up arms in the service of the ministry.

It is said Admiral Shulldham is arrived at Boston, to supersede Admiral Graves.

At the same time arrived seven transports, we hear, without any troops.

On Wednesday, the week before last, major general Lee set out for Rhode-Island. He was attended from hence by his guard and a party of rifle-men; and from Providence, by the cadet company of that place, and a number of minute-men. He entered the town of Newport the Monday following, preceded by the cadets, his guard; and the rifle-men. While there, he called before him a number of obnoxious persons, to whom he rendered an oath of fidelity to the country, which was taken by all of them, excepting col. Joseph Wanton, jun. Nicholas Leclunere, and Richard Beale, two custom-house officers, who refused taking it; upon which they were put under guard, and brought to Providence. The general, after having viewed the island, and given directions for erecting some fortifications, set out for Providence on Wednesday, from whence he came to town last Saturday.

NEW-YORK, January 11.

On the 10th instant, the governor issued a proclamation to dissolve the assembly of this colony, and writs were issued for a new election of representatives of the people to serve in general assembly. The sheriff of this city and county has published an advertisement, giving notice to the freemen and freeholders of the same, that he has appointed Thursday, the first day of February next, for them to meet at ten o'clock in the forenoon, on the Green, near the workhouse in the city, to elect four members to represent them in general assembly. The advertisement expresses it thus: To be representatives of the said city and county to assist the captain-general, or commander in chief, in a general assembly.

Montreal, Dec. 21. Last night gen. Wooster received information by letters from Boucherville, that a plan was laid for cutting off the communication between gen. Montgomery's army and our garrison, and at one stroke, to destroy all the friends of the United Colonies;—that a magazine of arms, &c. was deposited with a captain of the militia; that the scheme was concerted, and to be conducted by St. Luc Lacorne, who had a strong party in readiness to put it in execution.

On this intelligence, colonel Litzma, with a detachment of 100 men, among whom was part of my company, was ordered in quest of the principal persons mentioned in the information. About ten o'clock at night embarked in three batteaus, crossed the river, and marched about twelve miles to Beauharville, where we surprised and took at St. Luc Laorne, his son in law, major Campbell, and several others, whom we brought to general Wooster, who ordered them to La Prairie, in order to be sent down to one of the United Colonies. I do not think the information was supported by sufficient evidence, but it was such as made it indispensable for the general to act as he did; and St. Luc Lacorne was known to be a very dangerous person in Canada. Our garrison is weak, but general Wooster is taking the most prudent and spirited measures to put it in the best order of defence possible. I hope a full conviction of the very great importance of this place, and the necessity of a powerful army to defend the possession, in obtaining which, Providence has favoured us in so remarkable a manner, will stimulate the United Colonies to send speedy and ample supplies of men, well fitted with every article necessary to that end; 10,000 men will secure the country against all attempts that may be made to retake it from them.

Jan. 15. Wednesday last the ship Sampson, capt. Coupar, sailed for London, having on board the following cabin passengers, besides a considerable number in the steerage, Mr. and Mrs. Plenderleith and family, Mr. Rogers, late of Charlestown in Massachusetts-Bay, gen. Dalrymple, Henry Kelly, Esq. Mr. James Kington, lieut. Moncrieffe, 1st. George Robinson of the navy, Mons. Orilliard of Canada, col. Glazier, and Mess. Mawlds.

The October packet from Falmouth for this port, we hear, is sailed for Halifax.

PHILADELPHIA, January 15.

IN CONGRESS, January 11, 1776.

WHEREAS it appears to this congress, that several evil disposed persons, in order to obstruct and defeat the efforts of the United Colonies in the defence of their just rights, have attempted to depreciate the BILLS of C E D I T emitted by the authority of this Congress.

Resolved, therefore, That if any person shall hereafter be so lost to all virtue and regard for this country as to refuse to receive the said bills in payment, or obstruct or discourage the currency or circulation thereof, and shall be duly convicted by the committee of the city, county or district, or, in case of appeal from their decision, by the assembly, convention, council, or committee of safety of the colony in which he shall reside, such person shall be deemed, published, and treated as an enemy of his country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these colonies.

Extract from the minutes.
Published by order of Congress.
CHARLES THOMPSON, Secretary.

By authentic advices from the camp at Cambridge, of the 3d and 4th instant, we learn that the bay and harbour of Boston yet continue open; that a man of war is so stationed as to command the entrance of Salem, Beverly, and Marblehead harbours. That 500 fresh troops had arrived from Ireland—two regiments had gone to Halifax—two had pushed into the river St. Lawrence in hopes of getting up to Quebec, which was very doubtful. That the two regiments arrived at Boston were the 53th and 17th. That admiral Shulldham was also arrived. An intelligent person got out of Boston on the 3d instant, who informed general Washington that a fleet, consisting of 9 transports, containing 360 men, were ready to sail under convoy of the Scarborough and Fowey men of war, with two bomb vessels and some flat-bottomed boats; their avowed destination in Boston was to Newport; but it was generally supposed to be Long-Island or Virginia; but a number of other transports are taking in water, and they are baking large quantities of biscuit in Boston, some say for the use of the shipping, who are to lay in Nantucket-Road on account of the ice, while others believe a more important movement is in agitation. This person also informs, that they have not the least idea in Boston of attacking our lines, but will be very thankful to be permitted to remain quiet. That before general Burgoyne's departure it was circulated through the army, in order to keep the soldiery quiet under their distresses, that the disputes would soon be settled, and that he was going to England for that purpose. That they had intelligence at Boston of 4 vessels having sailed from Hispaniola for this continent some time ago, laden with arms and ammunition. Our advices conclude with the following anecdote. That upon the king's speech arriving at Boston, a great number of them were reprinted and sent out to our lines on the 2d of January, which being also the day of forming the new army, the great Union Flag was hoisted on Prospect-Hill, in compliment to the United Colonies. This happening soon after the speeches were delivered at Roxbury, but before they were received at Cambridge, the Boston gentry supposed it to be a token of the deep impression the speech had made, and a signal of submission. That they were much disappointed at finding several days elapse without some formal measure leading to a surrender, with which they had begun to flatter themselves. When these accounts came away the army were all in barracks, in good health and spirits. That 5000 militia had taken the places of those soldiers who would not stay beyond their time of service; that they were good troops, and the whole army impatient for an opportunity of action.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in the continental service, dated, Before Quebec, December 16, 1775.

General Carleton escaped from Montreal, by padding with his hands, by our men in the night, and got safe to Quebec, where he gave immediate orders for all that would not take up arms to leave the city.

We have, upon the Plains of Abraham, a battery of gabines filled with snow, and water poured on till it froze quite hard; which does very well, and we have some mortars in St. Roc; behind a tory's house, at a little distance from the Palace gate, from both of which we have put them into some confusion, and set the town on fire in several places; we have routed them up these five nights successively, and I believe they are almost tired out. Yesterday we sent a flag of truce to them, which they would not receive, and it was with great difficulty the raw sailors could be prevented from firing on the person who carried it. General Montgomery, in that, offered a safe convoy to Carleton, and Cramahé, lieutenant-governor, but he would not read it. Last Saturday night we made the Indians fire several letters into the town with bows and arrows, which were found by the inhabitants, and are circulating through the town. One was directed to the inhabitants, informing of our requests, and the consequence of a refusal;—and another to Carleton, threatening him with immediate death, unless he gave up the city. Was it not for Carleton, Cramahé, colonel M'Clean, a Scotchman (who was taken up by the congress at New-York, but denied all interfering in the dispute, when at the same time he had a commission to raise men) and Hanslie, collector of the customs, we should have been in Quebec before now; but in a few nights we are to take it by storm, to play from both batteries, attack it in the lower town, and scale the walls with ladders, which are almost finished. All that get safe into the city will live well, for they are allowed to plunder and take what they please.

By a gentleman, arrived here from South-Carolina, we are informed, that the ministerial fleet, with lord William Campbell on board, unable to obtain water, or any supplies whatever, had sailed, and it was supposed for Georgia. The women and children, who had left Charlestown, were returned to it. And some of the principal Tories having been secured, their deluded neighbours were convinced they had been grossly imposed upon, some of whom had given up their arms, and others joined the association. In short, that all trifling misunderstandings were cleared up, and the whole province was united in opposition to the arbitrary measures of administration.

Jan. 20. By an express from Canada we learn that in storming the city of Quebec, gen. M'Gonagay was unfortunately killed, upon which the provincial troops were immediately drawn off. The particulars of this affair the printer has not been able to collect from any other authority, than extracts of letters they differ much, it is thought proper to certain information. Our loss is not

BE SOLD,

containing 430 acres, situated in Prince George's county, containing, and seven of Upper Chesapeake river, 75 in the whole under inclosure, a low and may be made meadow, and are well situated and in good of a brick dwelling-house, 44 rooms and a passage below it, a brick kitchen and other conveniences, this tract is well watered and stock of every kind.

THOMAS SIM LEE

November 28, 1775.

Subscriber in Annapolis, between 100 and 150 pounds cost of goods, for

benefit of all persons who have been deceived by me, that they will discharge their debts, and obliging as to settle them by any of them have been long standing persons will refuse to close their accounts, with their humble

THOMAS HYDE.

quantity of ready made cordage, for ready money only.

Annapolis, November 3, 1775.

Light of the 25th of October last, a small schooner boat, lying in the bay, the main and fore sail of the boat of the main sail is about 27 feet much mended; almost a whole the after part, has been middle seam, and has a patch of canvas fore-sail also, has been much mended, which is faced with herring-boned, which is faced with nabrig from the clew up to the spring them to, or give sufficient to that they may be obtained by house in Annapolis, may receive 6 dollars over and above, upon person or persons who stole the

LES CARROLL, of Carrollton.

REWARD.

Subscriber on Tuesday last, a dark bay or brown horse, about 15 hands high, and has a few gray hairs in the ears, and when rode spirits, has a hanging main, lithe, and short back; his tail when very lately, was intended for a sign of the person who most as short as a long bob, the were broken on the inside, and is very probable that one of the time. Whoever takes up both the thief be convicted, and the at the Patuxent iron-works, reward, or so shillings for the horse should be a great distance, I be allowed if brought home.

JAMES RAWLINGS.

Annapolis, December 6, 1775.

purchase for cash, or bills of exchange able field negroes, boys and 5 years of age, enquire of

WILLIAM ROOKE.

George's county, May 24, 1775. given to all persons indebted to either by bond, note, or openly come and settle their respective debts, and give no longer in a requisition will be adverted to, compulsory methods to enforce respect to persons.

JOSEPH DUVAL.

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