

the first day of March next, and where they disband sooner, the committee of observation for their province by the said committee kept public use.

ed effective freeman within this province, and fifty years of age, (clerk, or physician, and excelsency the governor, excepted) shall enroll himself in the militia, the first day of March next, enroll himself in agreeable to the form of enrollment Convention, and that every militia as aforesaid, every such the present year, which shall be the fifth day of September last, such as is than forty shillings nor more shall be assessed by the committee of observation in each respective county, for the use of the public, of observation in each respective county, and appoint a committee of observation under their hands, appointment or persons they shall judge receive all monies by them to be paid within one month after the end of the year, and in default thereof, the committee of observation, empowered, may detain the goods of the delinquent, and sell and dispose of the same in such manner that goods may be disposed of for county levies. And every before the first day of July next, collected, after deducting seven for his commission, to the treasurer, and the sums from them on shall refuse and delay to enroll, or before the tenth day of the month of September next, to the committee of observation, if he hath any, except such person shall refuse or delay to enroll, the committee shall empower some person to take possession of the arms, and deliver the same to the said committee, and the committee shall cause all the arms to be valued, by men on oath, and shall keep a list of them, and their respective owners, and deliver the same to the committee of observation at their disposal, and the arms of the non-associators shall and may be disposed of in the same manner as the arms of those who refuse to enroll in the militia; and moreover the committee of observation of each county in this province, may in their discretion award and order any freeman of this province, not associating as aforesaid, found within their county, whether such freeman be a resident of their county or not, to enter into bond, with good and sufficient security, in such penalty as they may think fit, payable to the president of the Convention for the time being, by name, conditioned, that if such non-associator shall behave himself peaceably and quietly in the present unhappy contest between Great-Britain and the colonies; that he shall not directly or indirectly betray or give intelligence to the enemy of any councils or preparations of the Congress, or any Convention or assembly, or Council or Committee of Safety of this or any other province or colony; and that he shall not directly or indirectly correspond, by letter, message, or otherwise, during the said contest, with any British minister, secretary of state, member of parliament, or any person out of this province, holding an office, civil or military, immediately under the crown, or with any other person in arms against these colonies, knowing such person to be in arms, then the above obligation to be void. But if any such non-associator shall chuse to quit this province and go beyond sea, then the committee of observation of the county to which he belongs, may, and is hereby empowered to grant him a passport to leave this country in peace and go beyond sea, carrying with him his property, or any part thereof; and any person refusing to sign the said association, and to give bond as aforesaid, and continuing to reside within this province, may be imprisoned by the committee of observation of the county in which such non-associator resides or may be found, until the Convention then next after such imprisonment shall have taken order therein. And in case any non-associator shall quit this country and leave an estate in this province, such estate shall be burthened with a proportionate part of the expence incurred by this province in defence of American liberty; but these resolutions are not to extend to the household of his excellency the governor. All which association papers that shall be subscribed as aforesaid, as well as a list of the names of all those who shall refuse or neglect to subscribe the same, and all original bonds taken as aforesaid, shall be returned to the next Convention. Provided, that where any person hath not nor shall actually refuse to subscribe the association, but shall only have neglected to subscribe the same, if he doth afterwards sign the same before the committee of observation of his county, he shall not be disarmed for his neglect, nor compellable to give any such bond as before mentioned.

ed by the freemen of this province, be with printed, and that forty of the said copies be sent to the committee of observation of Baltimore county, forty of the said copies to the committee of observation for the upper district of Frederick county, and the residue of the same in equal proportions to the committees of observation of the several counties; and the committees aforesaid of Baltimore county, and the upper district of Frederick county, shall cause the said association to be tendered, on or before the first day of April next, to every freeman in the hundreds of their county and district respectively, where the said association hath not been already generally tendered to the said freemen, to be subscribed by them, according to the resolutions of the late Convention; and every person who shall not sign the said association at the time of tendering the same to him, or within five days thereafter, shall be in the same condition as if the same had been tendered to him according to the said former resolutions, and he who refused or neglected to have subscribed the same; and the committee of observation for each county, shall leave one or more of the association papers in the custody of some person or persons to be by them respectively appointed, in some house in their county town, and also at George-town and Hagar's-town in Frederick county, and shall give public notice thereof by advertisements, so that such of the freemen of this province, who have not done so already, may subscribe the same.

That every freeman within this province, who hath not already, nor before the eleventh day of April next shall have subscribed the association aforesaid, shall within five days after the said last mentioned day, deliver up to the committee of observation for his county, all his fire-arms, if he hath any, except pistols, and every person who shall neglect to do the same, may be disarmed by order of the committee of observation for his county, in like manner as those who ought to enroll in the militia and refuse to do so, and the arms of the non-associators shall and may be disposed of in the same manner as the arms of those who refuse to enroll in the militia; and moreover the committee of observation of each county in this province, may in their discretion award and order any freeman of this province, not associating as aforesaid, found within their county, whether such freeman be a resident of their county or not, to enter into bond, with good and sufficient security, in such penalty as they may think fit, payable to the president of the Convention for the time being, by name, conditioned, that if such non-associator shall behave himself peaceably and quietly in the present unhappy contest between Great-Britain and the colonies; that he shall not directly or indirectly betray or give intelligence to the enemy of any councils or preparations of the Congress, or any Convention or assembly, or Council or Committee of Safety of this or any other province or colony; and that he shall not directly or indirectly correspond, by letter, message, or otherwise, during the said contest, with any British minister, secretary of state, member of parliament, or any person out of this province, holding an office, civil or military, immediately under the crown, or with any other person in arms against these colonies, knowing such person to be in arms, then the above obligation to be void. But if any such non-associator shall chuse to quit this province and go beyond sea, then the committee of observation of the county to which he belongs, may, and is hereby empowered to grant him a passport to leave this country in peace and go beyond sea, carrying with him his property, or any part thereof; and any person refusing to sign the said association, and to give bond as aforesaid, and continuing to reside within this province, may be imprisoned by the committee of observation of the county in which such non-associator resides or may be found, until the Convention then next after such imprisonment shall have taken order therein. And in case any non-associator shall quit this country and leave an estate in this province, such estate shall be burthened with a proportionate part of the expence incurred by this province in defence of American liberty; but these resolutions are not to extend to the household of his excellency the governor. All which association papers that shall be subscribed as aforesaid, as well as a list of the names of all those who shall refuse or neglect to subscribe the same, and all original bonds taken as aforesaid, shall be returned to the next Convention. Provided, that where any person hath not nor shall actually refuse to subscribe the association, but shall only have neglected to subscribe the same, if he doth afterwards sign the same before the committee of observation of his county, he shall not be disarmed for his neglect, nor compellable to give any such bond as before mentioned.

Thursday, January 18.

The Convention took into consideration the king's speech to parliament on the 27th day of October last, and after some time spent therein, Resolved, unanimously, That the following declaration be entered on their journals:

WE the delegates of the freemen of Maryland in Convention, affected with the deepest concern by the opinion declared in the king's speech to parliament on the 27th day of October last, and expressed in the address of the lords spiritual and temporal to his majesty in answer thereto, that the necessary preparations for defence made by these colonies, are carried on for the purpose of establishing an independent empire, and being desirous to remove from the mind of the king, an opinion which we feel to be highly injurious to the people of this province, and to declare and manifest to his majesty, to the parliament, the people of Great-Britain, and to the whole world, the rectitude and purity of our intentions in the present opposition to the measures of the British ministry and parliament, do declare,

That the people of this province, strongly attached to the English constitution, and truly sensible of the blessings they have derived from it, warmly impressed with sentiments of affection for, and loyalty to, the house of Hanover, connected with the British nation by the ties of blood and interest, and being thoroughly convinced, that to be free subjects of the king of Great-Britain, with all its consequences, is to be the free members of any civil society in the known world, never did, nor do entertain any views or desires of independency.

That as they consider their union with the mother-country upon terms that may insure to them a permanent freedom, as their highest felicity, so would they view the fatal necessity of separating from her, as a misfortune next to the greatest that can befall them.

Descended from Britons, intitled to the privileges of Englishmen, and inheriting the spirit of their ancestors, they have seen with the most extreme anxiety the attempts of parliament to deprive them of those privileges, by raising a revenue upon them, and assuming a power to alter the charters, constitutions, and internal polity of the colonies, without their consent. The endeavours of the British ministry to carry these attempts into execution by military force, have been their only motive for taking up arms, and defend themselves against those endeavours is the only use they mean to make of them. Intitled to freedom, they are determined to maintain it at the hazard of their lives and fortunes.

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, dated February 12, 1776.

"The congress being informed, by gen. Lee, that (notwithstanding the declaration of governor Tryon, in the presence and hearing of gen. Clinton, that no troops would come to the city of New-York) a transport had arrived there last Saturday with troops; have requested the convention of New-Jersey, and the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, each to send a battalion to that city, for the defence and protection of that colony. Gen. Lee brought with him 2000 men from Connecticut; lord Stirling is arrived there with his battalion; the committee of safety for New-York have directed three battalions of their minute-men to the city. In a few days gen. Lee will have above 5000 men under his command, and this day he breaks ground to defend his troops."

THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY desirous of forwarding the intentions of the convention in promoting the manufacture of salt, salt-petre, gunpowder, and fire-arms, request any persons who are inclined to engage on liberal encouragement in the manufacture of fire-arms, or to erect a powder-mill in the neighbourhood of Baltimore-town, where it will be most beneficial, or salt, or salt-petre works, that they will send their proposals in writing to Gabriel Duvall, clerk of the council of safety, and they shall be attended to and speedily answered.

Just published, and to be sold at the Printing-office,

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION OF THE PROVINCE OF MARYLAND, Held at the City of Annapolis, on Thursday the 7th of December, 1775.

Charles county, February 14, 1776. Will be exposed to public sale, on the second Tuesday of March next, agreeable to the last will and testament of Massey Leigh, late of St. Mary's county, for current money, two thirds whereof are required to be paid on the day of sale.

A TRACT of land, situated in St. Mary's county, containing 172 acres, well timbered, within one mile of St. Mary's river, where may be had, with the greatest convenience, a variety of the best fish and oysters in their proper seasons. The improvements are, a new and planked floor dwelling house, three out-houses, a good apple and peach orchard, also a very convenient spring. Those having claims against said Massey Leigh, are requested to bring them in legally attested.

Annapolis, February 20, 1776.

To be sold at public vendue, by the subscriber, on the second Tuesday in April next (on the premises) by virtue of a power of attorney from Mr. John Ross Key, eldest son and heir at law of Francis Key, late of Cecil county, Esq; deceased,

A VALUABLE plantation, containing about three hundred acres, being part of a tract of land called and known by the name of Anne Catharine Neck, or Carpenters Point, situate, lying and being in Cecil county aforesaid, at the head of Chesapeake Bay, near the mouth of North-East river, and about three miles from Charles-Town. There is on the said plantation, an exceeding fine fishery, part of which at present rents for near one hundred pounds per annum.

Also to be sold at public vendue, the houses and lots in Charles-Town, formerly the property of the said Francis Key, the day after the sale of the abovementioned plantation.

JAMES BROOKS.

Annapolis, Feb. 21, 1776.

THIS is to forewarn all persons from harbouring or entertaining my wife Elizabeth Giles, as I am determined to prosecute any one who shall harbour her from the date hereof.

THOMAS GILES.

STRAYED or STOLEN, on the 18th of January last, from the plantation of Mrs. Margaret Brooks in Prince-George's county, two horses and a mare, viz. A dun coloured bay horse, about 14 hands and a half high, with a blaze face, one of his hind feet a little white, remarkably short docked, brand unknown. The other a dark bay, about 13 hands 3 inches high, branded thus (45) with two small white spots in each flank. The other a small roan mare, about 13 hands high, with one eye out and the other a glass eye, the two hind feet white. Any person securing the said horses, and giving notice to the subscriber, living in Charles county, shall have 5 dollars reward, paid by

JOSEPH BOARMAN.

CAME to the plantation of Chas. Carroll, Esq; in Elk Ridge, two mares, one black, with a star in her forehead, and docked, about 3 years old and 13 hands high; the other bay, about 12 hands high, appears to be about 4 years old; there is no perceptible brand on either of the mares. The owner or owners of the above mares may have either or both of them, proving property and paying charges.

CHARLES CARROLL.

THERE is at the plantation of Joseph Penn, living in the Fork of Patuxent, near Snowdens forge, a stray bright bay horse, with a mealy belly, about 7 years old, 13 hands and an inch high, branded IS on the near shoulder, and has no other marks, trots and gallops; he has a small bell fastened on with an old crupper. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.

THERE is at the plantation of Henry Pool, living on Linganore, in Frederick county, taken up as a stray, a small bay horse, about 12 hands high, 6 years old, and branded on the near shoulder and butteck something like S G and has a few gray hairs behind his ears, he trots, and had a small bell on. The owner may have him again on proving property and paying charges.

To be SOLD,

The 3d day of March next, at the plantation of William Smith, on the north side of Severn river, opposite to Indian-Landing warehouse,

HORNED cattle, one mare, hogs, and household goods. Six months credit will be given the purchasers for all sums exceeding 3l. common money, by giving bond, with security, to

VACHEL STEVENS.

Annopolis, February 1776

THE Subscribers intending soon to leave this province, earnestly request such persons who are indebted to them to pay off their respective accounts, and thereby enable them to put their intentions into execution: Should this request be attended to, it will much oblige their humble servants.

J. R. and ANNE NEILSON.

Patuxent Iron-Works, February 6, 1776.

BEING desirous of settling the estate of our father, RICHARD SNOWDEN, late of Patuxent Iron-Works, deceased, we request all such as are indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, as no longer indulgence will be given them. Also all persons that are indebted to the Patuxent Iron-Works Company, of more than twelve months standing, are requested to come immediately and make payment; and those who have it not in their power to make immediate payment, it is expected they will come and settle their accounts by note or bond. If the above requests are not complied with, we shall take such methods as will compel a settlement, without respect to persons, although it will be disagreeable to

SAMUEL and JOHN SNOWDEN.

STOLEN from the subscriber, living near Mr. Samuel Mansell, in Anne-Arundel county, on the first day of this instant, February, the following articles, viz. 5 large silver spoons, marked P B H on their handles; one silk gown and chintz ditto, 1 white muslin ditto, 5 calico ditto, a rapper, 10 yards of white flannel, 4 yards of white Tammy, 2 dymity petticoats, 1 red cardinal, 9 yards white Jean, 8 napkins marked the same as the spoons, 3 pair of sheets, about 6 yards of long lawn, a parcel of ribbons, tapes, pins and blond lace, 3 yards of stamped cotton, a fringed table cloth, a yard and a half of flowered lawn, 6 pounds of brown sugar, and sundry other small articles which are not remembered. Whoever will make discovery thereof, and bring the thieves to justice, on their being convicted thereof, shall receive three pounds current money reward, from

PHILIP HAMMOND, jun.

Annapolis, February 7, 1776.

To be SOLD, by the Subscriber,

A FEW pieces of osnabrigs and striped hollands. A few boxes of spermacetti candles. Old French brandy, of the barie, k-g, or gallon. Holland gin, in casks.

THO. C. WILLIAMS, and Co.