

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1776.

CAMBRIDGE, February 8.

WE hear that as Capt. Manly was coming out of Plymouth, Jan. 30, an armed brig (which went from Bolton for the purpose of taking him, as is supposed) gave him chase; upon which he ran in a vessel on shore a little south of the north river, in a boat. The brig came to anchor, and fired not less than 400 times upon the privateer; but, very remarkably, no man was even wounded. One ball entered the stern, and passed but about six inches from Capt. Manly, who was confined by sickness in his cabin. The next day 150 balls were found upon the adjacent shore.

Beside the above, which is from a correspondent near where the affair happened, we hear, that after the brig ceased firing, she manned her boats, boarded Capt. Manly's vessel (the people being ashore) and endeavoured to set her on fire; but seeing our people coming upon them, they were glad to get off without effecting their design. She has since been got off, is refitting, and is nearly ready for another cruise.

It is represented by one of our friends lately from Boston (a gentleman of good judgment and undoubted veracity) as worthy to be relied on, that one of the men of war that last arrived from England brought intelligence, that our friends in London had collected 26,000 pounds sterling for the support of the American army, which they were about sending by the way of the West-Indies; but that administration had secured the money, and were making strict search and enquiry for the donors, who were considered as countenancing and aiding a REBELLION.—Should the ministry pursue the enquiry, it may add to their confusion, and be in some degree, the means of our temporal salvation.

WORCESTER, February 9.

An officer from Quebec informs us, that he saw Major Meggs (who came out on his parole to carry in the prisoners baggage) who told him that our men were well treated; that the field officers were lodged in the cathedral, and the soldiers in dwelling houses in the city; that they were permitted to walk about and take the air, and a straw bed and three blankets allowed to every two men, and porter or wine given them once in a day; that our field officers were invited by turns to dine with general Carlton; that flour was very scarce in the city; but every thing, provision in particular, very plenty among our army on the outside, and our troops, though few in number, in high spirits. Our informant, on his journey thither, saw about eight hundred men on their way to Montreal. Captain Hubbard of this town is among the prisoners; he was wounded in the ankle, but likely to do well. There is not the least communication between our little army and the city, since Major Meggs went in.

NEW-YORK, February 15.

Extra of a letter from Montreal, January 27.

"The remnant of our battalion are to hold themselves in readiness, and expect marching orders tomorrow; I am for some time to be stationed at the Three Rivers, some matters being necessary to be settled with the Tories, who in different parts begin to be insulting, since our late misfortune at Quebec. This makes the third visit I have had among this kind of people. I expect soon to be called down to Quebec.

Your old friend Capt. Mott behaved well in the attempt to storm; and, in the retreat, brought up the rear with great reputation.

"Our blockade at Quebec is yet maintained. On the 15th instant Capt. Seaborn, from the Massachusetts, the first hero that has appeared to our assistance since the repulse at Quebec, arrived with 27 men. His arrival had a very good effect, for in the morning of the same day was found, at the church door, an anonymous seditious paper, very artfully written, calculated to stimulate the inhabitants to rise and cut us all off. However I believe few of them had as much courage as the writer had ingenuity. They are now convinced the lakes are frozen, and think the Bostonians are coming as thick as the trees in the woods. The Tories now seem quite crest-fallen."

Extra of another letter.

"Let not one small disaster among so many noble deeds, discourage the sons of liberty.—especially considering how the small remnant of the army left before Quebec dare to stand their ground, and form a blockade against that almost impregnable fortress. But I perceive it is open over head, and with the help of God, and a speedy reinforcement, we shall yet catch the fox in his den."

Extra of a letter from Newark, Sunday afternoon, 3 o'clock, 21st of February, 1776.

"This morning Major Ogden passed through here, express from Canada, to the congress at Philadelphia: He told me that our troops were safe, and in good spirits; that the brave Col. Arnold was getting better (and not a prisoner as reported) and that he met vast numbers of armed troops all the way from Canada to this government, who were on their march to join Col. Arnold; and that there was not the least doubt to be entertained but that he would have possession of Quebec in a short time."

The sloop Macaroni, capt. Hunting, is arrived at the east end of Long-island, from the West-Indies: About 16 days since the sloop over-came off Cape Matt-ras, by which accident the captain and one of the men were drowned. The whole crew were overboard, but all of them, except the two before mentioned, recovered the vessel again, when she soon righted.

Feb 19. Wednesday last his excellency our governor was pleased to appoint Whitehead Hicks, Esq; one of the judges of the supreme court of this province.

Mr. Hicks having at the same time surrendered the office of mayor of this city, his excellency was pleased to appoint David Matthews, Esq; to that office; and last Friday they were both qualified to act in their respective stations.

His majesty's ship the Phoenix, of 40 guns, capt. Parker, sailed for Sandy-Hook last Saturday morning; and about two o'clock the same day capt. Vandeput, in the Asia of 64 guns, got under sail in company with the ship Dutchess of Gordon, a ship loaded with salt, and two sloops (the three latter lately seized by the men of war) but it being half flood the Asia got aground off Whitehall, and did not float till near high water. He now lies in our bay with the Dutchess and her prizes.

We hear from Elizabeth-Town, in New-Jersey, that on Monday the 12th inst. intelligence arriving in that town, about eleven o'clock at night, that the men of war, transports and tender, which fell down the day before from the harbour of New-York to the Watering-Place with two hundred marines on board, intended to commit depredations on Staten-Island, and furnish themselves with live stock, general Livingston ordered three hundred of the militia to march forthwith to prevent the intended robbery; and having dispatched the necessary orders, and a party to reconnoitre the south side of the island and to procure all possible intelligence of the motions of the enemy, marched himself about three in the morning. The several detachments met at Ward's, in sight of the light-house, and were there joined by a company of light horse, under the command of Capt. Blanchard, but learning that the fleet had left the Hook the day before, the greater part of the troops, still on their march, were ordered back, and a proper number directed to guard the coast, under the command of Col. Thomas (lest the departure of the enemy might prove a feint) to give instant notice of their return.

Since our last, numbers of men have arrived in this city from Dutchess county and Connecticut, so that we now muster about three thousand troops, and more are daily expected.

WILLIAMSBURG, February 17.

A brig is arrived at Norfolk, from London, with papers to the 27th of November; by which we learn, that administration are at length disposed to come to a reconciliation, and that commissioners are to be sent over with terms to effect it. There are letters in town, brought by the above ship, which mention, that the fishery and Boston port bills are repealed, and also the one entitled "an act for the better administration of justice."

Some letters by the above vessel advise, that the Peggy, Fisher, from Virginia, was cast away on the 26th of November last, in sight of Liverpool, and that only the captain, and part of the crew, were saved. Mrs. Rathell, of this city, went passenger in the above vessel, and was one of the unfortunate persons that perished.

The man of war that arrived last week is the Roebuck, of 44 eighteen pounders, capt. Hammond, manned with 400 seamen, and 100 marines. She now lies opposite Sowell's-Point.

There is a report in town this morning of advice being received, that a French man of war of 74 guns in the Medierranean, having refused to pay the honours due to the British flag, an engagement ensued between her and the admiral's ship (the Medway of 60 guns) in which the Frenchman was severely handled, and so much disabled, that he was obliged to make off, and with the utmost difficulty got into Cadiz; but that the British admiral (Mann) was killed.

Two large ships from Philadelphia, loaded with bread and flour, were taken on the coast of America, by the Experiment and Viper men of war, and carried into Antigua, about the middle of last month.

NANSEMOND, February 5. Saturday night last we received intelligence of six tenders sailing from Norfolk the day before; and that three of them were on their way up this river, which was confirmed about nine o'clock, by three vessels anchoring, one near Sleepy-Hole ferry, and two more two or three miles higher up, having come as far as the flood tide served. Their boats were moving about the remainder part of the night, one up the river, since supposed as high as Goodrich's, five miles higher up, and just within the narrows but returned a little before day. They attempted nothing till the morning, when a boat full of armed men approached the shore within half a mile of the tenders, and were fired upon by four men from the bank, at one hundred yards distance; they returned the fire, and rowed wide of the place, when the four men were honoured with a salute of well directed cannon, but without any bad consequence. His first effort seemed of singular service, as they never attempted landing after, except at one desolate place, which they effected in the night, and burnt a house with some corn in it belonging to Mr. Cowper. It appears, by indubitable proof, that this incursion was partly intended with the concurrence of Goodrich and others, to get possession of two vessels loaded with pork, bacon, and other provisions, which, to the discredit of his neighbourhood, those ava-

rious false men have been suffered to collect and put on board, and with an expedition put them selves under the protection of the tenders. Though it was with a good deal of difficulty the last of them effected it (from the fire of our men, and the tenders boats being repelled) they weighed, ran up, and took possession, under a heavy fire of our brave men, who had nothing but small arms, and a scanty portion of ammunition, to oppose their cannon and musquetry. There was one occurrence happened, which had we foreseen, a tender and her prize would have fallen into our hands: The wind blowing a-head on their return, they were obliged to come within sixty yards of a high bank; fifty men, with a plenty of ammunition, could have drove them below decks, and prevented them from tending the sheets by which they must have come ashore. A few regiments, with the help of ammunition to our own men, could secure us in such a manner, that the fertile lands of this river may be cultivated to the no small advantage of the community; whereas, if we are drove back, the lands are so indifferent for near one hundred miles, that a famine must be the inevitable consequence.

LONDON.

HOUSE OF LORDS, Saturday, Nov. 11.

THE lords were yesterday assembled for the purposes of examining governor Penn, and of discussing a motion which the duke of Richmond proposed to amend on such information as that gentleman should afford the house.

Previous to the calling of Mr. Penn to the bar, the duke of Richmond announced the mode he had adopted preparatory to the governor's examination. His grace confessed, that he had apprized Mr. Penn of the questions which would be propounded to him, but the noble duke disclaimed having entered into any sort of conversation with the governor, lest such conversation should be malevolently construed into a design of anticipating the answers Mr. Penn might think proper to return.

The duke of Richmond having finished his preliminary remarks, Mr. Penn was called to the bar, and interrogated nearly to the following purport:

- Q. How long had he resided in America?
A. Four years. Two of those years in the capacity of governor of Pennsylvania.
Q. Was he acquainted with any of the members of the continental congress?
A. He was personally acquainted with all the members of that congress.
Q. In what estimation was the congress held?
A. In the highest veneration imaginable by all ranks and orders of men.
Q. Was an implicit obedience paid to the resolutions of that congress throughout all the provinces?
A. He believed this to be the case.
Q. How many men had been raised throughout the province of Pennsylvania?
A. Twenty thousand effective men had voluntarily enrolled themselves to enter into actual service if necessity required.
Q. Of what rank, quality, and condition, were these persons?
A. Men of the most respectable characters in the province.
Q. Were not a considerable number of them entirely destitute of property?
A. It was presumed that, subtracted from so large a number as 20,000, there were some necessitous, but the major part were in flourishing situations.
Q. Besides those 20,000, who voluntarily enrolled themselves to act as exigencies might require, what other forces had the provincials of Pennsylvania raised?
A. Four thousand minute-men, whose duty was pointed out by their designation. They were to be ready for service at a minute's warning.
Q. Did the province of Pennsylvania grow corn sufficient for the supply of its inhabitants?
A. Much more than sufficient, there was a surplus for exportation, if required.
Q. Were they capable of making gunpowder in Pennsylvania?
A. They perfectly well understood the art, and had effected it.
Q. Could salt-petre be made in the province?
A. It could; mills and other instruments for effecting such an undertaking had been erected with success.
Q. Could cannon be cast in Pennsylvania?
A. The art of casting cannon had been carried to great perfection; they were amply furnished with iron for that purpose.
Q. Could small arms be made to any degree of perfection?
A. To as great a degree of perfection as could be imagined. The workmanship employed in finishing the small arms was universally admired for its excellence.
Q. Were the Americans expert in ship-building?
A. More so than the Europeans.
Q. To what extent of tonnage did the largest of their shipping amount?
A. A ship of about three hundred tons was the largest they were known to build.
Q. Circumstanced as things at present were, did the witnesses think, that the language of the congress expressed the sense of the people of America in general?
A. As far as the question applied to Pennsylvania, he was sure this was the case; for the other provinces, he replied in the affirmative from information only.
Q. Did he suppose that the congress contained delegates fairly nominated by the choice of the people?