

his excellency the govern- read on Friday last, at a ... of the town and district ... service.

of the council at Savannah, Scarborough, at Seckspur, Fe- 13th, 1776.

endeavours, for upwards of these, in whose hands the pre- t the commanders of his ma- ain assurances that they might e a free intercourse with me, ult from the people assembled hat the king's ships might be on paying the full price or val- at the last message relative to, red the representatives of the- ver to the persons exercising- ly treated, and so little regard- ed on Tuesday morning the d, no kind of answer to it for- stand whether it was meant to- ot; and well knowing that it- e's service, and the welfare of- have an interview with the- these reasons, and many others- acquainted with, and approved- vents, to attempt coming down- at three o'clock yesterday- ing examined, and duly weigh- several letters from England, ton, and after having had a full- ally's officers here, I have the- be able to affirm, from the best- s now here will not commit any- ovince, although full of scient- every opposition that could be- s, and that nothing is meant- ally intercourse, and a supply of- may be entirely relied upon; s have an undoubted right to ex- sist upon; and this I not only- in his majesty's name, but also- end the people in Georgia have, the least hesitation) to comply- in my power to ensure them the- ce and quietude they now have,

graciously pleased to grant- and, (whatever may be- the people and province is such- ad possibly for the last time) ex- ave themselves and posterity from- destruction which (although they- clearly see is at the threshold of- cannot leave them without again- most earnest and friendly manner,- sent plans and resolutions. It is- id if they will enable me to do it,-) engage to give, and endeavour- ull pardon and forgiveness for all- ces; and this I conjure them to- ost feriously of, before it is too- happen as they may. Be it re- day, in the king's name, offer the- olive branch, that most desirable- e blessing, the return of peace and- d their posterity.

desired me to notify, that he is- give every assistance in his power- such merchant ships as may be le- enable them to proceed on their re- am, also to acquaint you, that the- ooner on Friday or Saturday last,- from a mistake by the officer who- ed sloop, and that if the owner will- oner will not only be delivered up- price paid for the damaged rice that- of which has been used to feed his- ey may take it away again. I am- at the same armed sloop will be sent- ur Mile Point, in order to get fresh- other purpose. This letter, which I- ould consequence and importance to- Georgia, I must desire you will be- cate to the congress, if sitting, and- are called the council of safety, and- habitants of the town and province- quaint them that I shall expect their- to every part of it in a reasonable- m, with perfect esteem. ur most obedient and faithful servant, JAMES WRIGHT.

STOWN (S. C.) March 4. Savannah that two armed Schooners got above the town, through Back- got a brigantine and schooner lying- arrived in the river; that- vessels were in the offing; that the- about 5 or 600, were in transports- that it was expected they would at- to prevent which upwards of 1000- ohina militia-men were in Savannah;- too great reason to fear there will be- said to be the 40th regiment, and 5- marines. Majors Grant and Maitland- also capt. Pitcairn, son of the major- who was in the Lexington and Bunker- and killed in the latter. It is report- eived a reinforcement from St. Augus- ne for more.

ter just received by express from the- Georgia. COUNCIL of SAFETY. Savannah, March 4, 1776. te connection between this and your- articular manner renders it necessary to- with the occurrences in the former, has- (at; to which, and the dispatch presen- you. ons in the evening of the 2d were such- our officers the most likely to prevent

anding of our enemy; and so as, if they should make- their landing good, either above or below the town, to- prevent their getting in. However, notwithstanding- our vigilance, they, by collusion with the masters and- others on board the merchant shipping, which hauled- near the shore of Hutchinson's island in the night time,- got on board the shipping about four o'clock yesterday- morning, to the number, as far as we are competent to- judge from the observations we made, and the intelli- gence we received, of between 3 and 300, where they- effected to conceal themselves.

We had our fears respecting these shipping, and there- fore kept a good watch upon them; but it was impos- sible for sentinels on this shore to descry them in board- ing from the other, the vessels being betwixt. Capt. Rice, who commanded a boat of observation, was sent on board the shipping about nine o'clock, to- order the rigging on shore, and was, without any noise, or the smallest knowledge of us, kidnapped. This we- did not know till about half an hour afterwards. Two- sailors, under pretence of coming on shore for clothes, gave information of the troops being on board the ship- ping, and of Rice's being taken. About 300 men were- then immediately marched to Yamacraw, opposite the- shipping, with three four pounders, and threw up a- breast work. The armed schooner Hinchinbrook, of- guns, with a number of men on board (which, with others, went up the Back-river in the afternoon of- the day preceding) about this time set sail down the- South-river, with intent, no doubt, of covering the- landing of the troops from on board the merchant- shipping; but being continually fired at by two compan- ies of rifle-men who were placed in ambush, she- was obliged to come very slowly, and often came to,- and returned a very smart fire at every place where the- rifle-men fired from, until the tide was spent, and she- could not get down. During the course of this firing- only one of our men got wounded, and that slightly in- the thigh; on board several were seen to fall.

In town we had exhibited a still more interesting- scene. We found the officers and men clamorous about- the capture and detention of Rice; and two gentlemen, lieutenant Daniel Roberts of the St. John's rangers, and- Mr. Raymond Demeré of St. Andrew's parish, solicited,- and were permitted, to go on board to demand a sur- render of Rice and his people. They accordingly dis- vested themselves of arms, and were rowed by a negro- on board a vessel, in which were capt. Bar lay the com- modore, and major Grant; and these officers, contrary- to all the principles which cement society, and govern- mankind, immediately arrested our deputies, and yet- detain them as prisoners. We waited with anxious ex- pectation for near half an hour, when we demanded our- deputies by the help of a trumpet, without getting any- other but insulting answers. Whereupon we fired two- 4 pounders directly into them, and then they informed- us that they would send an answer in writing; which- they presently after did, signed by lieutenant Roberts- and Mr. Demeré, purporting, that if we would send two- of the persons in whom the people most confided, they- would treat with them.

Capt. Screven, of the St. John's rangers, and capt. Bar- ler, of the St. John's rifle-men, chagrined, no doubt- (the former particularly on account of his lieutenant)- by the detention of our deputies, took about a dozen of- rifle-men in a boat, and rowed directly under the stern- of capt. Ingalls, in whose vessel were a great number- of the soldiery, and in peremptory terms demanded our- deputies, and were answered, after one shot from capt. Baker,- by a discharge down directly upon them, of near two- hundred shot, both from swivels and small arms; which- was kept up while they were in reach. The captains- and men in the boat, not in the smallest degree confus- ed, or even perhaps disappointed by the attack, fired their- rifles, most of them three several times, and, they say,- not without execution; and wonderful to tell, not a- man of them killed. One man only received a slug in- the fleshy part of his shoulder, which was immediately- cut out, without the smallest inconvenience or danger;- the spectators all declare, as we now do, that such a pro- vidential deliverance has not yet been known.

This unmanly attack, upon a few men in an open- boat, produced a general fire from our field-pieces and- intrenchments, and as smart a return from two 4 pound- ers and several swivels from the shipping, which lasted- from about 12 o'clock till 4; and although they often- fired langridge, which continually whistled about our- men, not a single man was even touched; but we have- no doubt a number of the enemy met with a worse fate,- as they were seen to fall.

About four o'clock we called a council, and deter- mined to have the vessels immediately burnt, and issued- orders to col. McIntosh accordingly. Whereupon the- Inverness, late capt. McGillivray, loaded with rice and- deer-skins, was set on fire, and cut loose. Upon this- the soldiers, in the most laughable confusion, got ashore in- the marsh, while our rifle men and field-pieces with grape- shot were incessantly galling them. The shipping were now- also in confusion. Some got up the river under cover of- the armed schooner, while others caught the flame; and as- night approached, exhibited a scene, as they passed and- re-passed with the tide, which, in any other but the- present times, would be truly horrible, but is now a- subject only of gratulation and applause.

The ship of captains Inglis and Wardell, neither got- up the river, or on fire. They were ordered on shore, and- now are prisoners of capt. Screven, in the country, and- their vessels brought down close to the wharf. They- were permitted to write to capt. Barclay in the evening,- to inform of their situation, and to request an exchange- of prisoners, which the latter peremptorily refused.

We have thus given you a particular detail of things- as they really happened, to prevent the belief of any- erroneous intelligence, and from which you will be com- petent to judge of our situation. Col. McIntosh laid before the board a resolution of- your congress to aid us, accompanied by a letter from- Mr. Lowndes, and we are very glad that you are de- termined to afford us further assistance. We wish it- may arrive in time.

By order of the council of Safety; WILLIAM EWEN, president.

Printed from the original. By order of congress, PETER TIMOTHY, secretary.

Oh Thursday last arrived here, in 12 days from St. Eustatia, in the armed schooner Caswell, Mr. John W. Stanley, of this place. He sailed from Ocracoke bay, the 16th of January, in the brig Sally, captain Ridge, and the 12th of February made the island of Martinique, where the vessel was seized by the Poinona frigate, capt. Young, while she lay becalmed about two miles from the town of St. Pierre, and while Mr. Stanley was gone on shore to obtain permission to anchor there. The Poinona had anchored that night in the harbour of St. Pierre, and came out disguised like a merchantman. A sloop from Fairfield, in the same situation, was taken in company with the Sally.

Mr. Stanly informs, that several vessels arrived in the West-Indies from England while he was there, some of them in short passages, and that from all the prints he could see, and the accounts he could collect, there did not appear the most distant prospect of a reconciliation; but, on the contrary, the ministry were so determined, their majority in the house so great, and their influence among the people in general so extensive, that the few friends we had were disappointed, and all hopes of their being able to effect any thing in our favour despaired of.

That 40 sail of transports, blown off the coast, had arrived at Antigua within a few weeks. Five of them had failed for Boston, under convoy of the Viper; the remainder were to sail in a few days, under convoy of the Hind, and several vessels armed in Antigua with guns, &c. purchased partly in St. Eustatia for that purpose.

That the English islands had been in the utmost distress for provisions, which by this time must have been greatly increased, had not 40 or 50 sail of American vessels, chiefly provision, loaded and bound for foreign islands, been seized by the ships of war, and sent into Antigua, St. Kitt's, Dominica, and Nevis; the inhabitants of which islands were so incensed against the Americans, that those who happened to be there were treated with the utmost severity. Some have been shackled and thrown into a dungeon, for only expressing their sentiments; others obliged to quit their property, and fly to the French for that protection they could not find among the English. An instance of the first kind happened in Antigua while Mr. Stanley was in the islands, in the imprisonment of a Mr. Campbell of New-York; and of the second of the flight of Mr. Peter Wykoff of Philadelphia, against whom an information was lodged by a Mr. Connell, that he had seen Mr. Peter Wykoff bear arms about twelve months before in Philadelphia. This was deemed high treason, as appears by a proclamation of governor Shirley, offering a reward of 500l. for apprehending him.

Among the many vessels seized under the prohibitory act are the following, viz. From New York, the sloop Sally, Doge, Charming Polly, Iruzen, America, Campbell, and schooner Polly, Albino, Rhode Island, capt. Sweet. Fairfield, sloop Diamond, Whitney. Salem, brig America, Lambert. Philadelphia, ship Nancy, Kirby, and brig Gregg. North-Carolina, brig Sally, Ridge, and schooner James Green, cleared by governor Martin. Georgia, a brig, capt. Feare. Virginia, a brig. South-Carolina, brig Union, Boyd. Connecticut, a sloop, capt. Jones. New-York, a sloop, capt. Gibbs.

The cruisers are so exceedingly vigilant among the islands, that few vessels escape them. Notwithstanding which a brig from Baltimore, a ship (Libert, captain Monro) from Philadelphia, and two pilot boats from the same place, had got safe to St. Martin's and St. Eustatia early in this month.

The following quantities of powder were shipped from Martinique and Guadaloupe within a few weeks, besides large quantities from the Cape and St. Eustatia, which has caused that article to be as high as 5s. 6d. a pound, and none now to be had even at those extravagant prices.

For New London	20000	Five sail for N. London;	
For Maryland	7000	sent out by N. Shaw,	
For Piscataway	6000	account of the Uni-	
For ditto	5000	ted Colonies	40000
For ditto	5000	For Plymouth	4000
For Rhode-Island	9000	For S. Carolina	20000
For Calco-Bay	3000	For N. Carolina	2200
			121200

WILLIAMSBURG, April 6. The Duke of Cumberland Packet arrived a few days ago, from Falmouth, with government dispatches for lord Dunmore. It is said the Duke of Cornwallis sailed about the same time, with a number of transports, under convoy of twelve frigates; the place of their destination uncertain. The packet was at South-Carolina, but found lord William Campbell had left the province, and joined governor Martin at Cape-Fear. Some gentlemen from below say, that soon after the arrival of this vessel they published a paper which was called a declaration of war against the colonies, and received it with loud acclamations.

It is reported, that lord Dunmore has sent to England, in the Duke of Cumberland packet, which sailed last Wednesday, four French gentlemen, who were lately taken in a vessel bound here from Cape-Nichola Mole, pretending he has found letters upon them which prove their business was to treat with the congress.

ANNAPOLIS, April 18. Mr. GREEN, April 16, 1776. INCLOSED you have a copy of Mr. Johnson's much talked of intercepted letter; different parties having given it different constructions, makes it necessary that the whole be published, with a view that every person may read and judge for themselves, thereby frustrating the attempts of such as may be inclined to deceive by misrepresentations; you'll therefore please to give it a place in this week's Gazette, and you will oblige many of your customers, and particularly a constant one.

heral of the provincial forces; which, our correspond- ent desires we will publish, in order to enable the people of England to form a just opinion of the real intentions of the Congress; and their true motive for framing the petition, brought over by Mr. Penn; as well as of their expectations from it.

Copy of a letter from Thomas Johnson, jun. to Horatio Gates, dated Annapolis, April 18, 1776.

My dear Sir, I RECEIVED yours of the 11th July, and, in a day or two afterwards, forwarded your letter to Mr. Gates, by my brother, with directions, if he had left Freder- ick-town, where she then was on a visit, and had no immediate good opportunity, to send a servant on pur- pose.

I shall be very unhappy that petitioning the king, to which measure I was a friend, should give you or any one else, attached to the cause of America, and liberty, the least uneasiness. You, and I, and America in general, may almost universally wish, in the first place to establish our liberties; our second wish is a re-union with Great-Britain; so may we preserve the empire in- tire, and the constitutional liberty, founded in whig- gist principles, handed down to us by our ancestors. In order to strengthen ourselves to accomplish these great ends, we ought, in my opinion, to conduct our- selves so, as to unite America and divide Britain; this, as it appears to me, may most likely be effected by doing rather more, than less, in the practicable line; than would be required, if our petition is rejected, with con- tempt, which I think most likely. Will not our friends in England be still more exasperated against the court? and will not our very moderate men, on this side of the water, be compelled to own the necessity of opposing force by force? The rejection of the New York petition was very serviceable to America. If our petition should be granted, the troops will be recalled, the obnoxious acts repealed, and we restored to the footing of 1763. If the petition should not be granted, but so far attend- ed to as to lay the ground-work of a negotiation, Brit- ain must, I think, be ruined by the delay: if she sub- duces us at all, it must be by a most violent and sud- den exertion of her force; and if we can keep up a strong party in England, headed by such characters as lord Catham, and the others, in the present opposition; Bute, Mansfield, and North, and a corrupt majority, cannot draw the British force fully into action against us; our friends will certainly continue such as long as they see we do not desire to break from a reasonable and beneficial connexion with the mother country; but, if, unhappily for the whole empire, they should once be convinced, by our conduct, that we design to break from that connexion, I am apprehensive, they will thenceforth become our most dangerous enemies; the greatest and first law of self preservation will justify, nay compel it. The cunning Scotchmen and lord North fully feel the force of this reasoning; thence, their in- dustry to make it be believed in England, that we have a scheme of independence, a general turn, they equiv- ocaly use, to signify to the friends of liberty, a breaking off all connexion; and to Tories, that we dispute the supremacy of parliament. In the declaratory act, is the power of binding us, by its acts, in all cases whatever; the latter we do most certainly dispute, and I trust shall successfully fight against, with the approbation of every honest Englishman.

Lord North's proposition, and consequent resolution of parliament, were insidiously devised to wear the face of peace, and embarrass us in the choice of evils; either to accept and be slaves; or reject and increase the number and power of our enemies: I flatter myself that our petition will present to him only a choice of means in- jurious to his villainous schemes.

Our convention met the very day of my getting home, the meeting was very full, we sat close many days, by six o'clock in the morning, and by candle light in the evening. Our people were very prompt to do every thing desired; they have appropriated 100,000l. for the defence of this province, a great part of it to be laid out in the military line immediately, part contingently, and the rest for establishing manufactories of salt, salt petre, and gunpowder.

We have an association, ascertaining the necessity and justifiableness of repelling force by force, to be univer- sally signed; and strict resolutions, with regard to our militia; which is to be as comprehensive here, as per- haps in any country in the world, when called to action. We are to be subject to the congressional rules and re- gulations for the army. A committee of safety com- posed of sixteen, is, in the recess of the convention to have the supreme direction. We yet retain the forms of our government, but there is no real force or efficacy of the intelligence we have from England looks like what I dare say this province will not hesitate to discharge all officers, and boldly into it at once.

I have not lately heard any thing particular from Virginia that can be depended on; their conventi- on has had a long sitting, and I have no doubt but spirited measures, becoming themselves, and adequate to their circumstances, are adopted. We have the pleasure, now and then, to hear of your successful skirmishes. I have heard that you have all your riflemen, and am particularly anxious as to their conduct. The spirit has run through our young men so much, that, if the busi- ness proceeds, notwithstanding the scarcity of men in this and the southern provinces, I believe we must tur- nish you with a battalion or two; if as I hope, those who are gone acquire reputation, many of our youth will be on fire; the difficulty now is to regulate and direct the spirit of the people at large; and I verily be- lieve that, instead of their being discouraged by a check on our military achievements, a sore rub would in- flame them nearly to madness and desperation. I have already solicited your notice of several young gentle- men from Maryland; lieut. Griffin, and Daniel Dor- sey, volunteers with capt. Price's, and Frederick Ridge- ley, with capt. Cresap's company, and a young man of connection with us; their fathers, with whom I have an intimacy and friendship, are ambitious that they should be regarded by you, and desire I should make a favourable mention of them with that view. You must not be surpris'd, the rank you hold in the opinion of my countrymen must make you a military father of the Maryland youth; I have not a personal acquaint- ance with these three young gentlemen, but the pro- sion for the service is a powerful recommendation.