

illed, 4 wounded; Acton, 28, 28, all got aground, the first in latter in running away. The Siren's bowprit; the Siren got off assistance of a friendly English frigate, burnt and blown up by her she was on fire, Mr. Millegan, officers, and a party of men, boarder colours, the ship's bell, and as three boats could contain, lay at a considerable distance, fort, and by over-charging had damaged the ship so much as for her to go into dock before The Friendship, a hired armed various sizes, covered the bomb, no also fired very briskly at the The whole fleet badly manned Siren's crew, at twice of provisions and water. They provisions since their arrival, the Campbell had been very anxious for proposed taking all the forts with Solebay. Lord Cornwallis has of the land forces; he and ashore with the troops at Long had some time ago urged Sir on the sea side, otherwise he back and take the fort; and commanders; the commodore replied, march his troops when he required a fair wind, the first would proceed against the fort, time believed we had no troops but he was soon better informed, and drove back with loss. I left the commodore to enjoy the fate alone. This must be a miswallis's having had the command Ireland. The negro pilot Sampson, being carelessly, was on board the out down with the doctors out of the fleet sailed from Ireland the as about 4000, but it transports the rest and not since been heard

riars from on board the Ranger all the land forces, said the 2000 to 2000 at most. Between 9 Acton, the commodore, and of stea) away. They made no pipheave up their anchors, but the commodore has only one anchor about 2 o'clock on Friday, when for a supply of powder, some of en mistaking the unavoidable cried out the Yankees had done applied, by God we are glad of it, such a drubbing in our lives; we Yankees would not stand two saw better fellows. All the comecet spoke loudly in praise of the fellows. The seamen in genegetting on shore to join the Amewal, a deserter from col. Gadsd informed the commodore, that Johnson he had spiked up all the fort might be easily taken. The fleet, that no quarter would be cans, and that £. 5000 had been

duft in life. Consider his education, his attachments and connections. Enquire what has been his conduct in the struggles between the proprietary, his upper house, and the people; whether he took the part of the clergy in their contest for the 40 per poll; whether he opposed or justified the proclamation for regulating and establishing the fees of office; whether he holds any place of profit under the old government? examine his principles as to the dispute with Great Britain; reflect on his conduct at the time of the stamp act; trace his behaviour from that period to the present time. Ask whether he supported the commercial system of opposition, contributed to the purchase of arms, subscribed the allocation, or enrolled in the militia? In short, consider seriously whether he has shown an uniformity of conduct, that he is well affected to your cause, and that you can trust him, at this very alarming crisis, to support the measures of America and her independency. I have already communicated what I esteemed very exceptionable conduct in your December and May Conventions. A very considerable change has been made in our public measures by the last Convention. The debates have been public, the members have voted individually, and the instructions to the deputies in Convention have been withdrawn, but I am inclined to think your directions, and not an alteration of sentiment, produced the change. The vote to authorize your deputies to concur in a declaration of independence appears as unanimous. The necessity of the case, and not the justice or policy of the measure, obtained the assent of some, and others agreed to the vote, who, a few minutes before, declared it was against their private opinion and the sense of their country. An attempt was made at the last to obtain a fair and equal representation of the people at the next Convention, and the number of taxables was proposed as the rule, by which to ascertain the number of delegates each county should elect. The principle was admitted, no better rule was proposed, and yet the motion failed. A compromise took place, and to pacify some counties, an increase of representatives was given. Suppose the colony to contain 75,000 taxables, or 300,000 souls, of which 50,000 taxables, or 200,000 souls, live on the western, and the residue on the eastern shore. By the present regulation two thirds of the taxables or souls, in the colony, will have 44, and one third will have 32, representatives. Is this an equal and fair representation? Is it just to the larger counties is not obvious by the mode now adopted. The opinion of an individual, however supported by reason, justice and policy, will not avail against the supposed interests, or the passions and prejudices of men. When the first great principles of a free government cannot be secured to the people, a man may reasonably entertain fears and suspicions, that matters of less consequence, though essential to liberty, will not be obtained. It is observed, by the ingenious and learned Dr. Price, "that civil liberty, in its most perfect degree, can only be enjoyed in small states, where every member is capable of giving his suffrage in person, or of being chosen into public office. When a state becomes numerous or extensive it is inevitable, and a diminution of liberty, necessarily ensues. In a great state, all the individuals that compose it cannot be admitted to an immediate participation in the powers of legislation and government, yet they may participate in these powers by a delegation of them to a body of representatives. In this case it is evident that the state will be still free or self governed; and that it will be more or less in proportion as it is more or less fairly and adequately represented." The same gentleman remarks, "in our or to a fair and equal government, there ought to be a fair and equal representation of all that are governed; and as far as this is wanting in any government, it deviates from the principles of liberty, and becomes unjust and oppressive." It would be a waste of time to add any thing more on this subject. The proposition is self evident, and if every reader is not convinced, all further reasoning would be in vain. The same delegates that refused an equal representation at the last Convention will deny it at the next Convention, and our new constitution will be established without the first vital principle of a free government; the gentlemen who withhold this right from the people ought not to be elected, or they ought to be intrusted by their constituents. In my first paper I remarked the natural propensity of man to power, and the impropriety and danger of entrusting it long in the same hands. I informed you, that your Convention in July resolved, that to prevent an abuse of power from a continuance in the same hands, one half of the Council of Safety should be left out at each succeeding Convention. You have been acquainted, that they observed the resolve as the rule of their conduct in December, and broke it at their May session. No gentleman was given for the strict observance of it at our meeting, a palpable breach at another. No state can long continue free without a steady and invariable adherence to such a rule of conduct. At the last Convention, all the gentlemen (except one) of the late Council of Safety, were continued in power. I beg leave to enquire of the members of that Convention, why this repeated breach of their own resolves? Are their resolutions to be binding on all the community but themselves? I am the more alarmed at the conduct of continuing the same men in authority, in the present situation. If the legislative should be divided into two branches, a question will arise, from whom the other branches shall be chosen, and for what length of time. It may be proper that the delegates should elect; suppose they should establish two other branches, a council and a governor for life. I am afraid if the present delegates should be elected, and your sentiments not known to them, that they will establish men in power, in whom your confidence will not be placed. In the choice of the first officers I have reason to believe a preference will be given to themselves, their friends, and friends. It remains with you to prevent an improper use of your power; be cautious whom you trust, and strictly enjoin every man to act in such a manner, as that you may know what he does, and whom he nominates to the office in government. The election by ballot precludes the knowledge of the voter, and if not abolished may be abused. The practice will continue unless you express your disapprobation. The writer of this paper will make no apology for the reasons which he has lately addressed you; the liberties of the native country are in imminent danger; he seems it criminal to be silent; he has no friends, no relatives to serve; no private interests to promote. He disdain to temporize, he scorns to trim with any party. This paper is an evidence of the truth of this assertion. He wishes not to survive the liberties of America. If proud oppression brings him to the grave, And marks him dead, it never shall mark a slave.

AN AMERICAN.
We are informed, that the following instructions were drawn up by the confederate appointed by the several bodies of militia of Anne-Arundel county, and afterwards signed by a great number of the inhabitants of the county, and in consequence thereof published in the late Convention.
TO CHARLES CARROLL, barrister, SAMUEL CHASE, THOMAS JOHNSON, WILLIAM PACE, and HARVEY CARROLL, of Carrollton, Esquires, delegates in Convention for Anne-Arundel county.
Gentlemen,
WE, the freemen of Anne-Arundel county, taking into serious consideration the present alarming situation of this province, have determined to exercise our unquestionable right of instructing our delegates in Convention: no apology is necessary; neither is any, we presume, expected from us, from the very nature of the trust; and the subsisting between constituent and representative. The former is entitled to express his sentiments and to instruct the latter upon all points that may come under his consideration as representative. We therefore instruct you as follows:
1st. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution in Convention, that the instructions given by the Convention in December last, and renewed by the May Convention, to the deputies of this province in Congress, be rescinded, and the restrictions therein contained removed.
2dly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution in Convention, that this province be united with the other twelve colonies represented in Congress, and that the deputies of this colony be authorized and directed to concur with the other united colonies, or a majority of them, in Congress, in declaring the United Colonies free and independent states, and in forming such further compact and confederation between them, in making foreign alliances, and in adopting such other measures as shall be adjudged necessary for securing the liberties of America, provided the sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal government and police of this province be reserved to the people thereof.
3dly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that the exercise of every kind of authority under the crown of Great-Britain be now totally suppressed, and that a government be formed for this province under the authority of the people only.
4thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that a government for this province ought not to be formed and carried into execution by this present Convention.
5thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that a full and equal representation of the people be appointed, and a new Convention be immediately elected, with powers to form and establish a new government, which Convention to continue until the last day of December next, and such government to be subject to such alterations and amendments as the people may judge necessary.
6thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that a Council of Safety be appointed to exist during the intermediate time between the dissolution of the present and the meeting of the next Convention, and also deputies to represent this province in Congress.
7thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that all public and private interest of monies cease and determine during this time of general distress, such monies only to be excepted as have been actually lent within the three last months, which shall be proved by the lender to have been lent within the time aforesaid, to the satisfaction of such persons as shall be appointed to determine the same, and that country produce be a lawful tender for the interest of the same, at the market price, to be regulated by two unexceptionable freeholders upon oath, one to be appointed by each party.
8thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that the monies appropriated by act of assembly for opening, clearing, and widening the roads in this county, be immediately applied to the payment of the public charge of this county.
9thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that all rents may be paid, and shall be received, in country produce, at the same rates which such commodities bore at the time such contract was made or renewed; and the same to be set by the committees of observation until other persons are appointed.
10thly. That you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolution of Convention, that no person be allowed to bring fire-arms, or any other weapons offensive or defensive, to the ensuing election of delegates in Convention.
AT a meeting of the deputies of the militia battalions of militia of this county in convention at the house of Mr. John Ball, in the city of Annapolis, It was proposed, that the following do pass as a resolve of this committee:—That this committee do proceed to draw up a sketch of a form of government for this province, to be laid before the people of this county, for their consideration. A question was put on the passage of the same, and determined in the affirmative. For the affirmative:—Edward Gaither, Thomas Tillard, A. Warfield, James Lee, James Hammon, Vachel Gaither, Thomas Harwood, Edward Cromwell, Thomas Mayo, Andrew Ellicott, Kezin Hammond, Matthias Hammond.
The following gentlemen declined voting on the above, conceiving that they had no power from their constituents for that purpose:—Thomas Dorley, John Dorley, E. Howard, Benj. Galloway, John Dorley, son of Michael, Samuel Harrison, Jun; John Thomas, Joseph Ellicott, Richard Stringer, Michael Pae.
The committee then adjourned until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.
June 27, 1776.
Committee met according to adjournment.—The committee proceeded to take up the resolve of yesterday, respecting the drawing up a form of government

for this province, to be laid before the people of this county for their consideration. Whereupon the following form of government was approved of by a majority of the committee, ordered to be published, and laid before the people of this county.
A FORM of GOVERNMENT proposed for the consideration of the people of Anne-Arundel county.
The right to legislate is in every member of the community. But, for the sake of convenience, the exercise of such right must be delegated to certain persons, to be chosen by the people. When this choice is free, it is the people's fault if they are not happy. I but the legislative may be so constituted as never to be able to form an interest of its own, separate from the interest of the community at large, it is necessary its branches should be independent of, and balance each other, and all dependent on the people.
That there be chosen by the people a lower house, and that there be chosen by the people an upper house—these two bodies to form the legislative power.
It is essential to liberty, that the legislative, judicial, and executive powers of government be separate from each other; for where they are united in the same person, or number of persons, there would be wanting that mutual check, which is the principal security against the arbitrary laws; and a wanton exercise of power.
That there be a council of seven persons, appointed by the joint ballot of the two houses of legislature, from their bodies, to hold the executive power.
That these several bodies, legislative and executive, hold their powers for one year; as annual elections are most friendly to liberty; and the oftener power reverts to the people, the greater will be the security for a faithful discharge of it.
That the vacancies created in either house of legislature, be filled up by the appointment of the council aforesaid, he filled up by the people of such counties where such persons were sent from, that there may be always a full representation of the people in both houses of legislature.
That the judges of a provincial court, be annually appointed by the joint ballot of the two houses; also a clerk for the judicial office (having no secretary for that office as heretofore) with reasonable fees for their respective services.
That the commission clerk of loan office, attorney general, treasurer for land-office, judge, marshal and clerk for court of admiralty, be annually appointed by the joint ballot of the two houses of legislature.
That justices of the peace, sheriffs, clerks of counties, and surveyors, be annually chosen by the people of each county.
That the chancery business be done by the respective county courts, subject to an appeal to the council, who shall have power finally to determine on such appeal.—The official business to be done by the respective clerks of each court, with reasonable fees for their respective services.
That there be annually chosen, by the people of each county, a person to serve as a register of wills, granting letters of administration, &c. and that the business heretofore done by the commissary of this province, be done by the county courts, with an appeal to the council, with reasonable fees for their respective services.
That no fees be allowed to be taken agreeable to the old table, but that a new and equitable table of fees be established.
That the trial by jury be held and kept sacred, also the habeas corpus preserved.
That no person shall be eligible to sit in either house of legislature, or council, or congress, who holds any office of profit, or any pension, or receives any profit, or any part of the profit thereof, directly or indirectly, or who holds any office in the regular military service, or marine service, either continental or provincial.
That all officers of the regular or marine service be appointed by the joint ballot of both houses of legislature.
That the present resolves of the conventions of this province, restricting suits at law, stand and remain during this time of public calamity.
That no standing armies be kept up on'y in time of war.
That a well regulated militia be established in this province, as being the best security for the preservation of the lives, liberties and properties of the people.
That every militia company choose its own officers, battalions their field-officers, and the district battalions their brigadier-generals.
That adjutants, drummers and fifers, with drums and fifes, and cartouch-boxes, be provided at the public expence, for the different regiments of militia; and guns for such unarmed men who are not able to purchase the same.—And that the colonels of each battalion be empowered to contract for the above, and procure the same; and draw on the treasurer for the amount.
That a congress be appointed annually, and composed of members of each colony, to convene at any place they may agree on, as occasion may require; to have power to adjust disputes between colonies, regulate the affairs of trade, war, peace, alliances, &c.—referring to the people of each colony the right of regulating the internal government, and the exercise thereof.—That there be seven deputies, appointed by the joint ballot of the two houses of legislature of this province, for congress annually, out of their bodies; and that the vacancies created in either house, by such appointment, be forthwith filled up, by election, by the people of such counties where such members were sent from.—That there may be always a full representation of the people in assembly as well as in congress.—The continuance of such persons in assembly, or in public business requires their continual attendance in congress, would be nugatory, and serve only as a mark of respect, which could not compensate for the injury done the public, by their absence from either station.
That all the votes and proceedings of the assembly be published, except such parts as relate to military operations, and measures taken to procure arms and ammunition, and that they sit open, except when particular business requires their being private.—No that the votes and proceedings of congress be published, except as aforesaid.
That an oath be taken by every person who shall hold an office of profit or trust, to said use, so

About 50 out of 80 of the present Convention are field officers in our militia.