

# MARYLAND GAZETTE

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1776.

LONDON, April 16.

**T**HOUGH it may seem to be a paradox, yet there is nothing more true, than that the generality of officers are the worst judges of the policy of war. In all ages and countries, when similar expeditions to the present American had one have been proposed by ignorant and tyrannical ministers, they have always been approved of and represented as very easy to make, and sure to be crowned with success by most of the military men, as they think their honour is concerned in greedily embracing every opportunity to fight, right or wrong, that they may show their prowess, and above all get preferred.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, May 4.

The following is the message from his majesty to the house of commons, delivered by lord North on Thursday.

GEORGE R.

"HIS majesty, relying on the experience, zeal and affection of his faithful commons, and considering that, during the present troubles in North-America, emergencies may arise, which may be of the utmost importance, and be attended with the most dangerous consequences, if proper means should not be immediately applied to prevent or defeat them, is desirous that this house will enable him to defray any extraordinary expenses incurred, or to be incurred, on account of military services for the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, and as the exigencies of affairs may require.—And his majesty having judged it expedient to issue his proclamation, in pursuance of an act of parliament, passed in the fourteenth year of his reign, for calling in the remainder of the deficient gold coin; doubts not but that his faithful commons will enable him to make good the charges which shall be incurred in this service, and which cannot at this time be ascertained."

G. R.

Never was England in such a situation as the present, as the following anecdote, which may be depended upon; doth certify: There is not a six pounder fit for service in this kingdom, and very few of any other weight. Now if 40,000 French or Spaniards should land on our coast—how could we repel them? However, to remedy this as fast as possible, the board of ordnance have ordered Verbruggen, the founder at Woolwich, to get ready, with all possible dispatch, another boring machine, in which case he will be able to supply government with what number of guns they please. Lord Townshend is amazingly active in the station of master general—visits Woolwich almost every week—and carefully inspects the minutest circumstance.

Extract of a letter from Spithead, May 2.

"It is expected we shall sail to-morrow for Boston, under the command of commodore William Hotham, who is to hoist his broad pendant on board of the Preston, a 50 gun ship. The ships which go under his command are the Jersey hospital ship; the Emerald, of 32 guns; the Brune, of 32 guns; the Strombolo fire-ship, the Carcase bomb, and all the transports which are ready. There are upwards of one hundred sail of transports now here, all of which have foreign troops on board. We have on board five small casks, and 30 chests of Spanish dollars, amounting to 35,000*l.* for paying the marine troops at Boston.

Upon an average, the ships of war now equipping for America have not more than six seamen to ninety others in their complements.

May 4. The charge made by the lord mayor against lord North and the lords of the admiralty, for licensing ships to trade to any part of America, is no less than the breach of an act of parliament; it is in its nature a very important and a very serious charge; it is a breach of the laws in the most glaring and audacious manner; it is encouraging the most illicit practices, under a most violent, abandoned, and daring contempt of the constitution of this country, and the three great branches of the legislature.

The house began to debate on this subject about half past four, which continued till nine, without calling in a witness. The debates were expected to last long, and that the gentlemen of the custom-house would be ordered to attend again this day.

As the gallery doors were locked and no person whatever admitted, all we can say is, that notwithstanding the flagrancy of this act, it is not to be expected, from the complexion of the members, that such designing and detestable practices should meet with an adequate punishment.

PORTSMOUTH, July 29.

Last Monday the first regiment of militia in this colony, pursuant to orders from lieutenant-colonel Joshua Wentworth, made a genteel appearance upon the plains in this town; almost every person upon the alarm-list indiscriminately appeared in the ranks to stand a chance of draughting 115 men for the Canada reinforcement, if found necessary; but the alacrity with which the men enlisted prevented any disagreeable impressions; such an ardour was discoverable in all ranks, by their encouragement, that they seemed to emulate with each other who should most promote the service.

NEWPORT, July 22.

Yesterday arrived here, from a cruise of about a month, the brig Andrew Doria, capt. Biddle, who about ten days before took the ship Nathaniel and Elizabeth, capt. Hoar, from Jamaica to London, loaded

with 500 hogheads of sugar, two hogheads of rum, &c. Capt. Philip Brown, of this place, was put in prize-master; and ordered to the first port he could make. Capt. Biddle saw two frigates under an easy sail near Block-island yesterday morning.

Yesterday in the afternoon, lieutenant Calcott of the Merlin ship of war (which lay a little without the harbour) came in a barge with a flag to this town; the general assembly being then sitting, he was conducted to the State-house, where he delivered a letter to his honour governor Cooke, from Richard Vincent Howe.

NEW LONDON.

A succinct account of the CONSTITUTION of the free and independent state of CONNECTICUT.

CONNECTICUT is divided into six counties, and each county is divided into a number of townships. Each town has a right to send two representatives to the general court or assembly. The general court consists of two branches, called the upper and lower house. The upper house is composed of the governor, deputy-governor, and twelve assistants or councillors; and the lower house, of the representatives of the several towns. This court has sole power to make and repeal laws, grant levies, dispose of lands, belonging to the state, to particular towns and persons; to erect and stile judicatories and officers, as they shall see necessary for the good government of the people, and also call to account any court, magistrate, or other officer, for any misdemeanor or mal-administration, and for just cause may fine, displace, or remove them, or deal otherwise, as the nature of the case shall require; and deal and act in any other matter that concerns the good of the state; except the election of governor, deputy-governor, assistants, treasurer, and secretary, which shall be done by the freemen at the yearly court of election, unless there be any vacancy, by reason of death or other cause, after the election, which may be filled up by the general court. This court has power also, for reasons satisfactory to them, to grant suspension, release, and bail delivery, upon reprieve in capital and criminal cases. The general court has two stated sessions annually, on the second Thursday of May and October. The governor, or in his absence the deputy-governor, may call the assembly, on special emergencies, to meet at any other time. The governor, deputy-governor, assistants, and secretary, are annually elected on the second Thursday in May. The representatives are newly chosen for each stated session. The judges and justices are annually appointed by the general court; the same persons are commonly re-appointed from time to time, during their capacity to serve, unless guilty of misbehaviour. The sheriffs are appointed by the governor and council, without limitation of time, but may be superseded by the authority that appoints them. The governor for the time being is captain-general of the militia; the deputy-governor, lieutenant-general; the other general officers and the field-officers are appointed by the general court, and commissioned by the governor. The captains and subalterns are chosen by vote of the company and householders living within the limits of the company, the persons so chosen must be approved by the general court, and commissioned by the governor, before they have power to execute their offices. All the military officers hold their offices during the pleasure of the assembly, nor can they resign their commissions without leave of the captain-general, under penalty of doing duty in the ranks as private soldiers.

The mode of electing the governor, deputy-governor, assistants, treasurer and secretary is, that the freemen in the several towns meet on the Monday next after the first Tuesday in April annually (being the day appointed by law for that purpose, and for choosing representatives) and give in their votes for the persons they choose for said offices respectively, with their names written on a piece of paper, which votes are received and sealed up by a constable in the freeman's meeting, the votes for each of said officers in a different paper, writing on the outside the name of the town, and the office for which the votes were given in, which are sent by the representatives to the general court, to be held on the second Thursday of May next ensuing; at which time, after the house of representatives have chosen a speaker and clerk, a committee is chosen of members of both houses to sort and count the votes, and declare the names of the persons chosen to said offices. Any freeman, qualified to vote for representatives, &c. may be elected to any office in the government. In choosing assistants, twenty persons are nominated by the votes of the freemen given in at their meeting for choosing representatives in September annually, and sealed up and sent to the general court in October then next, which are counted by a committee of both houses, and the twenty persons who have the greatest number of votes stand in nomination, out of which number twelve are to be chosen assistants by the freemen, the next April, in manner afore described.

The qualifications requisite to entitle a person to vote in election of the officers in government are, maturity in years, quiet and peaceable behaviour, a civil conversation, and forty shillings freehold, or forty pounds personal estate, in the list of rateable estate; if the selectmen of the town certify a person qualified in those respects, he is admitted a freeman, on his taking an oath of fidelity to the state. If the names of all that are thus admitted, are enrolled in the town-clerk's office, and continue freemen during life, unless disfranchised by a sentence of the superior court, on conviction of misdemeanor.

The governor in the upper house, and the speaker in the lower house of assembly, have a casting voice when

the other members are equally divided in opinion on any question.

There is in this state a superior court, consisting of one chief judge and four other judges, which has authority in all criminal cases extending to life, limb, and banishment; and to hear and determine all civil actions brought by appeal from the county courts, or on writs of error. This court also hath authority in all matters of divorce. There are two stated sessions of the superior court in each county annually.

There are also county courts held in the several counties, consisting of one judge and four justices of the quorum, who have jurisdiction in all criminal causes arising within their respective counties, where the punishment does not extend to life, limb, or banishment. The county courts also have original jurisdiction in all civil actions wherein the demand exceeds forty shillings.

The superior and county courts try matters of fact by a jury, according to the course of the common law.

Justices of the peace have authority to hear, and determine, civil actions, where the demand does not exceed forty shillings. They also have authority in some cases of a criminal nature, punishable by fine, not exceeding forty shillings, or whipping, not exceeding ten stripes, or sitting in the stocks. This state is also divided into a number of probate districts, less than counties; in each of which is appointed a judge for the probate of wills, granting administration on intestate estates, appointing guardians for minors, ordering distribution of intestate estates, &c. An appeal lies from any decree of this court to the superior court. The superior, county, and probate courts appoint their respective clerks.

The general court has, till very lately, been the only court of chancery in this state; by a late temporary law, the county courts determine matters of equity from five pounds to one hundred pounds value.

The superior court, from one hundred to four hundred pounds value, and the general court all cases exceeding four hundred pounds value.

All attorneys at law are admitted and sworn by the county courts; there is no attorney-general, but there used to be one king's attorney in each county, but since the king has abdicated the government, they are now attorneys to the governor and company.

NEW-YORK, July 29.

The 4th man in the counties of King's, Queen's and Suffolk, on Long-Island, and Westchester, Dutchess, Orange and Ulster, were last week ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning; indeed many of them are gone to their proper stations already.

An old gentleman between 60 and 70, now does duty in the militia near Newark, in New-Jersey, is the father of about 15 children now alive, nine of which are in the continental army, from captains to privates.

The small-pox is now so brief in and about Boston, that there are no less than 10,000 persons in and near that place down with that disorder; to prevent the spreading of which, no more news-papers will be printed there for some time; but the post has favoured us with the following agreeable advices:

That a ship from Ireland, with 1,700 barrels of pork; 400 firkins of butter, 100 casks of oats, and 100 casks of oatmeal, was taken and carried into Boston last week.

A letter of marque from Salem took a sloop and ship from Jamaica; the sloop loaded with dry goods and salt, bound for Halifax; the ship bound to Europe with 370 hogheads of sugar, 140 puncheons of rum, 55 pipes of Madeira wine, 27 cannon, 9 and 6 pounders, and a large quantity of wrought plate;—They were carried into sheepcut.

PHILADELPHIA.

The following is an exact state of what passed at the interview between his excellency general Washington and colonel Patterson, adjutant general of the army under general Howe, July 20, 1776.

AFTER usual compliments, in which, as well as through the whole conversation, col. Patterson addressed general Washington by the title of excellency, col. Patterson entered upon the business by saying, that gen. Howe much regretted the difficulties which had arisen respecting the address of the letters to gen. Washington; that it was deemed consistent with propriety, and founded upon precedents of the like nature, by ambassadors and plenipotentiaries, where disputes or difficulties of rank had arisen; that gen. Washington might recollect he had, last summer, addressed a letter to gen. Howe, to the hon. William Howe, Esq; that lord Howe and gen. Howe did not mean to derogate from the respect or rank of gen. Washington; that they held his person and character in the highest esteem; that the direction, with the addition of &c. &c. &c. implied every thing that ought to follow. He then produced a letter, which he did not directly offer to gen. Washington, but observed that it was the same letter which had been sent, and laid it on the table, with a superscription to George Washington, &c. &c. &c. The general declined the letter, and said, that a letter directed to a person in a public character, should have some description or indication of it, otherwise it would appear a mere private letter; that it was true the &c. &c. &c. implied every thing, and they also implied any thing; that the letter to gen. Howe, alluded to, was an answer to one received under a like address from him, which the officer on duty having taken, he did not think proper to return, but answered it in the same mode of address; that he should absolutely decline any letter directed to him as a

plantation of Jeremiah Moore, in Prince-George's county, a small black mare, about 12 months old on the near buttock GM, and something resembling N, two white spots, in her forehead, and on her lope. The owner may have her property and paying charges.

REWARD.

Frederick Furnace, July 1, 1776. A runaway, two servant men, viz. RICHARDS, a convict, has fled from the country, a miner, born in the north of England, about 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, and pitted with the pox, and wears his hair tied up in a country linen shirt and kerchief brown, a country hose, broad brass buckles, and a waistcoat about 28 years of age.

An indentured servant, has been out 15 months, born in Wales, 7 inches high, has been brought up and is acquainted with the business, dark complexion, small-pox, short curled black hair, small eyes, speaks broken English, and took with him one pair of blue upper jacket, one of Welch cotton with sleeves, and half worn shoes and buckles.

Up said servants and brings them to the subscriber gets received if 20 miles from home 30 s. if 40 miles 40 s. for each week reward including what the law requires.

DENTON JACQUES.

Annapolis, June 19, 1776.

HIRE IMMEDIATELY, AN, who understands waiting and can write a good hand. Such a character, may hear of a place, and management will be given, by application hereof.

PENCE per pound is

for fine white LINEN

one penny per pound for

the Printer hereof.

Iron-Works, February 6, 1776.

of settling the estate of our father, OWDEN, late of Patuxent Iron-works, request all such as are indebted to the immediate payment, as no longer given them. Also all persons that are Patuxent Iron-Works Company, months standing, are requested to make payment; and those who are indebted to make immediate payment they will come and settle their own bond. If the above requests are not complied with, we shall take such methods as will not, without respect to persons, be disagreeable to

AMUEL and JOHN SNOWDEN.

ARWOOD, jun. treasurer of the

ore, will give constant attendance

West-street, Annapolis, to give in

credit emitted by the Provincial

Maryland the seventh day of Decr

those emitted by the Convention

day of July, 1775.

the subscriber, living in Calvert

Monday the 10th of June, 1776.

and WILL; had on when he went

with jacket, of a blue shirt and trousers

he may alter his dress. Whoever

negro, or 5 inches high, in any good

again, shall be entitled to a reward

illings, besides what the law allows.

ALEXANDER OGG.

June 26, 1776.

the subscriber, living in Prince-

county, near Mr. Richard Snowden's

Sunday last, a convict servant man

M-SHEPPARD, by trade a shoemaker

feet 4 or 5 inches high, has short

a swarthy complexion, and has an

He has been hurt in his right leg,

to limp and to walk on the end of

side had on and took with him a

new, an old claret coloured coat

shoulders, new green jacket, and

another breeches patched in the knees,

ings, and an old pair of shoes.

He ran away on the 20th of May

up and brought home a day or two

last departure. He stole out of my

last a young black mare, 3 years

old, 3 inches high, docked but not

hind-foot white. He also took with

makers tools.

As the said servant and mare, so that

get them again, shall receive five

for the servant one three pounds,

forty shillings, and if brought home

arges, paid by JOSEPH DUVAL.

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