

...that he met with Lord Dunmore's... standing out to sea in two divisions... several days lying in Lynnhaven bay... some small vessels which probably they... manage, or were unfit for a voyage... ever return.

POLIS, AUGUST 21

...from Tidewater, dated August 5, 1776... pleasure to inform you that the greatest... between the general officers in this de... as the field officers in general... We... ve men here, and the militia coming in... pretty good discipline; the sick, about... t-George, and recruiting fast. Near... provisions, and fresh arrives in great

...force consists of two vessels carrying... and as many swivel guns each... two... carriage and eight swivels each... grow... and ten swivels... five gondolas... and... and twelve pounders and eight swivels... gondolas... will be completed in ten... low galleys in two or three weeks; each... carry four eighteen and twenty-four... feet, when completed, will be supe... the enemy can bring against us... two French captains, of col. Living... arrived here by the way of Cohoon... m St. John's, who say that a French... before Quebec, and that general (Arle... troops, except two hundred left at st... e to Quebec. We expect soon to know... the matter by our reconnoitering par... ally expected in."

Letter from New-York, August 15, 1776.

...time to inform you that, by a deserter... to-us last night, we have this intelli... the enemy's reinforcement of Hessians... they are not suffered to land, but have... s fresh provisions on board. The troops... gan yesterday morning to embark, the... all prepared to land them, with land... protection; that we may hourly ex... Their numbers, in the whole, amount

...various conjectures as to their intended... imagine it will be on Long-Island... ve miles above the city, and others up... lin's post. Our galleys went up yester... y the Phoenix and Rose; we have not... in yet.

...at a day or two longer we shall have near... ny Pennsylvania troops in."

CONVENTION. August 17, 1776.

...BLE to the order of the day, the Con... into consideration the resolution of Con... the United Colonies free and independ... and thereupon RESOLVED unanimously... vention will maintain the freedom and... f the United States with their lives and

...y order of the Convention,  
G. DUVALL, clk.

INSTRUCTIONS

...CARROLL, barrister, BRICE THOMAS... THINGTON, SAMUEL CHASE, and R... ND, Esqrs. representatives for Annap...

...scribers, freemen of Anne Arundel coun... our most serious consideration the in... s you are to meet upon the 13th of th... t our indispensable duty to give you th... sions.—It is with much concern and... find, that the last convention excluded... r countrymen who did not possess fifty... r a visible estate of forty pounds det... tion of representatives, thereby unjustly... half of the free inhabitants of this sta... ble right of free suffrage; nevertheless... n to all the pains and burthens of go... ins glaring injustice, hateful distinction... impolicy, we are determined to use ou... to get redressed; and that our free, ho... sted brethren, as they proportionably... every burthen and brave every dang... are every privilege: WE therefore direct... you to move for, and use your utmost... establish, in the NEW GOVERNMENT, —... en, natives of this STATE, above twenty... ge, and well affected to the present glo... which we are engaged, shall have the... ve vote in the election of all officers who... sen by the people, provided such perso... ded one year next preceding the electio... district, city, or town, where he shall... —Also that every foreigner, above twent... f age, well affected to the present gloriou... a visible estate of thirty pounds curren... of fifty acres of land, and who has resided... wo years next preceding the election in... district, city, or town, where he shall offer... have the right of free suffrage in the el... cters who are to be chosen by the peopl... all elections be free and made *visu oculo* in... heretofore used in this state.—Also that... represented, but that the inhabitants... allowed to vote for the representatives for... That there be chosen by the people a... upper house annually—these two houses... and independent of each other, and to... lative power.—And also that the person... hold the executive power, have no share... in the legislature.—Also that no perso... ble to sit in either house of legislature... o holds any office of profit, or any pen... sions any profit, or any part of the pro... r directly or indirectly, or who holds any... gular military service, or marine serv... ental or provincial.—That the trial by ju... and kept sacred and the habeas corpus pr... p that justices of the peace, sheriffs, clerks... and surveyors, be chosen by the people

...annually, of each county.—That a well regulated mil... tia be established in this state, as being the best security... for the preservation of the lives, liberties, and proper... ties of the people.—That every militia company chuse... its own officers, and battalions their field officers... That adjutants, drummers, and fifers, with drums... That adjutants, and cartouch boxes, be provided at the... fices, colours, and cartouch boxes, be provided at the... public expence, for the different battalions of militia... and guns for such unarmed men who are not able to... purchase the same, and that the colonels of each batta... lion be empowered to contract for the above, procure... the same, and draw on the treasurer for the amount... That all monies to be raised on the people be by a fair... and equal assessment, in proportion to every person's... estate; and that the unjust mode of taxation by the poll... heretofore used, be abolished; and that assessors be... chosen by the people of each district, in each county... annually.—Also that the votes and proceedings of the... assembly be published, except such parts as relate to mi... litary operations, and measures taken to procure arms... and ammunition; and that they be open, except when... particular business requires them to be private: also... that the votes and proceedings of the assembly be published... except as aforesaid.

Signed by eight hundred and eighty-five freemen.

To the ELECTORS of Anne-Arundel county.

Gentlemen,  
WE were honoured on Saturday afternoon with in... structions from a considerable number of the inhabitants... of this county, on points of very great importance, re... lative to the formation of a new government for this... state. As your delegates, we esteem ourselves bound... by your instructions, though ever so contrary to our... opinion. We conceive several of your instructions, if... carried into execution, destructive to a free govern... ment. We are reduced to this alternative, we must... either endeavour to establish a government, without a... proper security for liberty or property; or surrender the... trust we have received from you. We submit to you... the propriety of reconsidering your instructions. We... would with pleasure wait on you at the most conveni... ent places in the county to explain our reasons against... the restrictions you are pleased to impose on us, but are... prevented by our necessary attendance on the public... business. If you could make it convenient to meet at... the city of Annapolis on Monday the 16th instant, we... will attend you. We are now ready (as we ever have... been) to serve our country at every hazard, but we can... not submit to be instruments for its destruction.

We are, gentlemen, with sincere respect and esteem,  
Your obedient servants,  
CHARLES CARROLL,  
BRICE T. B. WORTHINGTON,  
SAMUEL CHASE.

Annapolis,  
Aug. 19, 1776.

Letter on "The interest of America" concluded.

—America must consist of a number of confederate... provinces, cantons, districts, or whatever they may be... called. These must be united in a general congress;... but each province must have a distinct legislature, and... have as much power within itself as possible. The ge... neral congress should not interfere, or meddle with... provincial affairs, more than needs must. Every pro... vince should be left to do as much within itself as may... be. And every province should allow each county, ye... a and each town, to do as much within themselves as... possible. Small bodies manage affairs much easier and... cheaper than large ones. If every county and town... manage as much business as may be in themselves, peo... ple will be better satisfied, and the provincial cong... resses saved much trouble. Our counties and towns... have heretofore been left to manage many of their own... affairs, and it has been a great privilege, and their... business has been managed to great advantage. Each... county should now chuse their officers, which were... heretofore appointed by the crown; these matters may... now be adjusted with much ease. Every province... should be allowed full power within itself, and recei... ve such advantages by a general union, or confede... ration, that it would choose to continue in that union... The connection of the provinces should be made to... be for the interest of each, and be agreeable to each... This will keep them quiet and peaceable; and nothing... will tend so much to this as to let every province have... as much power and liberty within itself as will consist... with the good of the whole. Neither the continental... congress, or any other number of men, should assume, or... use, any power or office for their own sake, but for... the good of the whole. Let America increase ever so... much, there must never be any power like a kingly... power; no power used for its own sake, or for the ad... vantage, or dignity of any number of men, as distinct... from the good of the whole. And while these things... are thus managed, a general union will be agreeable, and... people will not complain.

Notwithstanding every province should have all possi... ble power within itself, yet some things must be left... to the general congress. As, 1. Making and manag... ing war, and making peace. 2. Settling differences... between provinces. 3. Making some maritime laws, or... general regulations respecting trade; otherwise one... province might unjustly interfere with another. 4. Or... dering a currency for the whole continent, for it would... be best that, as soon as may be, there should be one... currency for the whole, the general congress might or... der the quota for each province. 5. The forming of... new provinces. 6. The sale of new lands. 7. Treat... ies with other nations, consequently some general di... rections of our Indian affairs.

As we are now to assume a new mode of government, I... think it ought properly to be new. Some are for... keeping as near the old form of government in each... province as can well be. But I think it is entirely... wrong, it is mistaken policy. It is probable that some... who propose it mean well; but I humbly conceive they... have not thoroughly considered the thing. Others who... propose it may have self-interest at bottom, hoping... thereby to retain or obtain places of profit or honour... We must come as near a new form of government as... we can, without destroying private property. So far as... private property will allow, we must form our govern... ment in each province, just as if we had never any... form of government before. It is more difficult to form... a new government than to patch up an old one, partly... new, because it is more simple and natural. I... speak chiefly with respect to legislature. We should by... all means avoid several branches of legislature.

...than one, because a plurality causes perpetual conten... tion and waste of time. It was so in Rome, it has been... so in Great-Britain, and has been remarkably so in... these provinces, in times past.—The ever memorable... congress now in America has done business infinitely... better than if there had been several orders of delegates... to contest, interrupt, and be a negative one upon an... other.

A patched government, consisting of several parts, has... been the difficulty, I may call it the disease, of some... of the best civil governments that have been in the... world; I mean the Roman republic, and the govern... ment of Great-Britain. Had the Romans been a true... democracy, without a senate, or body different from the... plebeians, they might have avoided those jars and conten... tions which continually subsisted between those two... bodies. Should we admit different branches of legisla... ture, it might give occasion, in time, to degenerate into... that form of government, or something like that, which... has been so oppressive in our nation. It might open a... door for all disposed aspiring men to destroy the state... Our having several branches of legislature heretofore, is... an argument against rather than for it, in time to... come, because it is a word that not only has been abu... sed, but in its nature, tends to abuse. The simplest... mode of legislation is certainly the best.—The Euro... pean nations have, for some centuries past, derived most... of their knowledge from the Greeks and Romans. The... Romans especially have been, in a fort, an example; be... ing excellent in many things, we have been ready to... view them so in all things. We are very apt to take in, or... imitate, the imperfections as well as the excellencies... of those that are excellent. Hence, I suppose, it is that... most, if not all the republics in Europe have a body of... senators in their form of government. I doubt not it... will be an argument with many, that we in America... must have something like a senate, or council, or upper... house, because the Romans and other republics have... had.—But the argument is the other way, it was their... imperfection, it was a source of trouble, it was a step... towards arbitrary power, and therefore to be avoided... Free government can better, much better, subsist with... out it. Different branches of legislature cause much... needless expence, two ways. First, As there are more... persons to maintain, and—Second, As they waste time, and... prolong a sessions by their contentions. Besides, it is... a great absurdity that one branch of the legislature, that... can negative all the rest, should be the principal... executive power in the state. There can be but little... chance for proper freedom, where the making and ex... ecuting the laws lie in the same hand, and that not of... the people in general, but of a single person. The legi... slative and executive power, in every province, ought... to be kept as distinct as possible. Wise, experienced, and... public spirited persons, should be in places of... power, and if so, they must be sufficiently chosen, and... introduced. For this reason there should be no... number that are hereditary; for hereditary is a birth... right, nor a number put in place for life, for mens... abilities and manners may change. Rulers should be... frequently chosen to their office.—A provincial congress... is the whole province met by representatives; and there... is no need of a representative of a king, for we have... none; nor can there be need of a council to represent... the house of lords, for we have not, and hope never... shall have, an hereditary nobility different from the... general body of the people; but if we admit different... branches of legislature, there is danger that there may... be, in time.

IN CONVENTION, July 6, 1776.

RESOLVED, That a bounty of one shilling, com... mon money, be paid by the council of safety, for every... bushel of salt imported into this colony, and delivered... above Point Lookout, before the first day of March... next, and that the importer be allowed to sell the same... at any price, not exceeding 7s. 6d. per bushel, in... common money, per bushel.

Extract from the minutes,  
G. DUVALL, clerk.

IN CONVENTION, May 22, 1776.

RESOLVED, That a public salt-work be erected... on or near the Bay, near the mouth of Patowmack, and... another on the sea-board of this province; and that the... said works be carried on on the public account, under... the management and direction of such persons as shall... be appointed by the Council of Safety for the time be... ing; and that any sum of public money, not exceeding... the sum of five hundred pounds, may, by order of the... said Council of Safety, be expended in erecting and... carrying on each of the said works.

Extract from the minutes,  
G. DUVALL, clk.

IN COUNCIL of SAFETY, June 10, 1776.

ALL persons who are willing to undertake the erect... ing and carrying on salt-works, agreeable to the above... resolve of the late Convention, are requested to attend... the Council, and give in their proposals, which will be... duly attended to. By order,  
G. DUVALL, clk.

To be sold by the subscriber, on the premises, on

Monday the 23d day of September next; if fair, if not the next fair day, between the hours of two and three o'clock in the afternoon, for sterling cash or good bills of exchange.

A VALUABLE tract of land called ANNA'S... DESIRE, situated on Patowmack river, near... Mount Pleasant, containing 190 acres and upwards. It has on it a good dwelling house with two brick chimneys, and garden paved in the middle with a kitchen, milk house, two 50 feet tobacco houses, corn house, stables, two negro quarters, two apple orchards containing 400, and two peach orchards containing 600 bearing trees. This plantation is well timbered and watered, and may be viewed before the day of sale. At the same time will be offered for sale some stock and plantation utensils. The purchaser incline to enlarge this tract, may probably have an opportunity, if joining Dr. Stewart's. Time will be allowed for payment.  
JOSEPH WARD.

THE pleasant and valuable plantation whereon the subscriber now lives, laying at the mouth of Smith's creek on Patowmack river and lower end of St. Mary's county, very convenient for fish, oysters, and wild fowls; the soil interior to none for farming or planting. The plantation contains about two hundred acres, under a good fence, on which there is a good dwelling house three rooms below and two rooms above stairs, with other convenient out-houses, all which will be rented, with the plantation utensils, on reasonable terms, by applying to the subscriber on the premises.  
Aug. 20, 1776.  
GEORGE COOK.

Hooe's Ferry, Aug. 14, 1776.

MRS YOUNG being so unfortunate as to lose her boats, I will send over my boats for any passengers crossing to Virginia, who will hoist the flag or make a smook at the usual place.  
3W  
RICHARD HOOE.

Calvert county, Jan. 2, 1776.

TAKEN up and decently buried the two follow... ing persons, lost from an oyster boat stove at her anchor, supposed to belong to York river in Virginia; one a youth about 5 feet high, well set, short black hair: had on a white country cotton shirt, ditto stockings, and short green jacket. The other about 5 feet 10 inches high, well set, and to appearance about 25 years of age, with long black hair and large whiskers: had on a claret coloured bath coating furtout, brown close bodied coat, one crimson coloured plush jacket, one green everlasting ditto white linen shirt, black everlasting breeches, and coarse yarn stockings, a silver broach set with stone in his bosom, and a silver watch in his pocket. By some papers found with him, among which was a recommendation from James Carter, his name is thought to be Willoughby Jordan. Their friends, if any, are desired to take the above effects away and pay charges, otherwise they will be disposed of as the law directs, by  
FRISBY FREELAND, coroner.

August 21, 1776.

ALL persons that have any just claim or demand against the subscriber, are requested to carry in their accounts, legally proved, to Joseph Burgess, sen. and they will be settled; and any person indebted to the subscriber is desired to make immediate settlement with the aforesaid person.  
JOSEPH BURGESS, jun.

STOPT by the subscriber, a gold mourning ring

with black enamel and a Latin motto. Whoever owns the same, desired to apply to  
WILLIAM FARIS.

Annapolis, Aug. 14, 1776.

LOST, on Monday the 5th inst. a small flat single cased watch, winds up in the face, and has a small screw in one part of the dial plate; maker's name John Deards, London, No. 1641. Whoever will bring the said watch to me shall receive three pounds reward, and if offered for sale please to stop it.  
JAMES MAWE.

RAN away from on board the Scorpion sloop of

war, the following seamen, viz. GEORGE PATTERSON, boatswain, a well set man, about 5 feet 8 inches high, brown complexion, short black hair curl'd round, and snub nose: had on a small round hat bound, a blue jacket and narrow trousers. JAMES PARKS, a likely well made man, about 5 feet 7 inches high, brown complexion and black hair, with a cock'd hat: had on a long blue jacket and short wide trousers. JOHN LOWRY, a stout well made man, with a red face, light hair, about 5 feet 6 inches high: had on an old blue jacket and an old pair of narrow duck-trousers. THOMAS DAVIS, a slender made man, about 5 feet 10 inches high, dark complexion, and much pitted with the small-pox, and long black hair: had on, a new felt hat, blue jacket, and new ofsnabrig trousers. DAVID REES, a short slender man, about 5 feet 5 inches high, dark complexion, short straight black hair, and has a great impediment in his speech: had on an old hat, blue jacket, and very dirty shirt and trousers. Whoever takes up the said seamen, and secures them in any gaol so that I can get them, shall receive eight dollars reward for each.  
WRIGHT WELLCOTT.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

NUMBER of slaves, or freemen labourers, for the purpose of carrying on a cannon foundery, at Anticam furnace in Frederick county. Good encouragement will be given by  
DANIEL & SAMUEL HUGHS.

August 14, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, a negro fellow named GEORGE, about 5 feet 4 inches high, has a dent in the lower part of his left cheek, occasioned by a bite. Whoever will bring him to Mr. William Saunders, near the mouth of South river, shall have two dollars reward.  
THOMAS WALKER.