

from a barge that came for water, a twenty gun sloop fired upon our men, but only one was wounded. To the great joy of its old inhabitants, Boston is left by the (to speak in the style of the times) ministerial troops; with great precipitation did they quit it, and to their credit left the town in a much better condition than was expected.

Major left a letter on the table, directed to the owner of the house he lived in, intimating that he expected to pay the rent, and was willing to make good any damage the furniture might have received. It was a day of general rejoicing and thanksgiving the day the Bostonians entered their town again, though we New-Yorkers have been in fear ever since their coming here: the variety of reports keeps one's mind always in agitation. I believe they have been seen off a dozen times, and sometimes just into the Hook; we have been so often alarmed now; that I fancy, like the boy in the fable, report may cry out till the wolves are in the fold, before we shall attend. Clinton and Howe, to be sure, have set the continent a racing from Boston to Carolina. Clinton came into our harbour; away flew the women, children, goods and chattels, and in came the soldiers flocking from every part. No sooner was it known that he was not going to land here, than expresses were sent to Virginia and Carolina to put them on their guard: his next expedition was to Virginia, where they were ready to receive him: from thence, without attempting to land, he sailed to Carolina. Now gen. Howe is leading us another dance. Some companies from Philadelphia, coming here, were ordered back again, on a report of his intention to pay that city a visit. Since that it is said, that part of the fleet are already gone to Halifax, part to either Carolina or Quebec, yet I am not certain to which, but from my very soul wish they were going up thither. There is a talk of erecting batteries at a place called Red Hook, which will make it very dangerous for men of war to lie in our harbour. We lovers of peace have all our hopes relied on the commissioners. If wishes could have filled their sails, they had reached the continent ere this. A pamphlet entitled Common Sense, has converted thousands to independence, that could not endure the idea before: if I knew how, would have sent it to you, for I think you want common sense in England very much, or you would have found out some means of making peace with us before we had gone to so vast an expence, and put you to so much greater. is among the runaways, and only waits for a boat to carry her goods to. I am chagrined at losing a neighbour. Whenever my friends are going, I accuse lord North, indeed I do not curse him, but I am not christian enough to bless him. A fluttering man the other day, moving away his goods, something broke by accident, which put him in a violent passion, and he stammered da--da--damn lord North, da--da--damn lord North, several times, to the diversion of the by-standers. So all the evils are charged to his lordship's account, except by Dr. who preaches in the meeting; he says it is not lord North, or lord South, nor English parliament, nor French, but it is your sins have brought it on you. Lord North, he says, is commissioned by the Almighty to plague us for our iniquities, and by him we may infer he is acquitted.

PROVIDENCE, August 17.

Extract of a letter from a planter in Grenada to his friend in London, dated June 17, found on board the ship Eagle, lately taken by the Montgomery privateer of this port.

"My affairs are in the utmost confusion on account of the present disputes, which God grant to be soon over, and a happy reconciliation, which if not soon, never will be; for depend upon it the Americans will declare themselves free, and will open their ports to all nations except England. They have at present 30,000 men in pay, as good troops as any nation ever produced, besides a militia of 20,000 more, always ready to join the grand army. Every man from fifteen to fifty is in arms. Their army is well supplied with every thing necessary to carry on the war. Their cruisers have taken a great number of English vessels. This and the neighbouring islands are in great distress for provisions, and in three months will be a general famine in this-part of the world, if some speedy relief is not given to them. At present any man that wants negroes may have as many as he pleases, to work for him for their food. You cannot form an idea of the distress that appears in every one's countenance."

NEW-YORK, Sept. 9.

Since the retreat of our army from Long-Island, the enemy have extended themselves a considerable length on the shore bordering the Sound, and on Tuesday a large number of them landed on Blackwell's-Island, about three miles from this city, but the shot from our batteries soon made them recross the river. On Wednesday a ship from the fleet (supposed to be a frigate) passed between Governor's-Island and Red-Hook, and that night got up the Sound abreast of the island the enemy had been drove from; when, under cover of her guns, they the next day again came over to it in large bodies. This brought on a brisk cannonade for near two hours, in which the ship sustained so great damage in her hull, &c. as obliged her to move close in with the Long-Island shore, for shelter from our shot and bombs. At the same time of attack, a firing also began from the enemies batteries on Long-Island opposite the city, which was returned with such spirit, by our people in their fortresses at and about the ship-yards, that they gave us little or no annoyance since from that quarter.

Several men of war now lie within gun shot of our main battery, and the greatest part of the fleet behind Governor's-Island, though they have lately had very favourable winds to come up to the city; which gives us reason to think they mean not to attack it by water till they know the success of their forces in attempting to land on this island.

Thursday a barge was seen in the East-River, founding the channel where it is obstructed by scuttled vessels, but soon made off, as it is supposed the observed our people at the main fort, preparing to give her a suitable salutation.

Wednesday a flag came from the fleet with a return of these officers that were made prisoners in the late attack on Long-Island; who we hear are treated with civility by the British officers.

Saturday night our guard-boats for observing the

motions of the fleet fell in with those of the enemy, when a smart attack began and lasted for some time, but the latter being reinforced with several tenders obliged ours to return to their station.

On Sunday morning a cannonade again commenced, supposed to be from our people opposing some new manoeuvres of the enemy up the Sound.

A list of the names of such officers as are prisoners with the enemy, and have, by a flag of truce, sent for their baggage and cash.

1st Pennsylvania Battalion. Col. Miles, col. Piper, capt. Brown, capt. Peebles, lieutenant Scott, lieutenant Gray, lieutenant Spear, lieutenant Drasbach, lieutenant Macpherson, major Burd, lieutenant Lee, lieutenant Broadhead, lieutenant Davis, lieutenant Wert, lieutenant Lopham. Dr. John Davis, Dr. Joseph Davis. col. Lutz, capt. Crawl, Mr. Duncan, capt. Heister, Mr. Young.

Of col. Kachline's regiment. Capt. Graf, lieutenant Lewis, lieutenant Middagh, lieutenant Shoemaker.

Of col. Lasher's battalion. Adjnt. Hoogland, lieutenant Troup, lieutenant Duncomb, Mr. Van Vaggenen, a volunteer, Mr. Gillian, ditto.

Of col. Smallwood's battalion. Mr. Wright, capt. Bowic, lieutenant Butler, lieutenant Muse, lieutenant Ridgely, lieutenant Steret, William Courts, James Fernandez, lieutenant Dent.

Of col. Atlee's regiment. Col. Atlee, capt. Howell, capt. Neci, capt. Nerbert, capt. Murray, lieutenant Finny, lieutenant Huston, lieutenant Henderson.

Of col. Huntington's regiment. Lieut. Makepeace, capt. Brewster, ensign Lyman, ensign Chapman, ensign Hinsman, ensign Bradford, lieutenant Orent, ensign Higgins, capt. Bissell, lieutenant Gillet, lieutenant Gae, adjut. Hopkins, Dr. Holmes, col. Clerk, maj. Wells Wyles.

Dr. Young -- volunteer. John Ioms, of col. Johnson's regiment. Mr. Callender, cadet of artillery. Mr. Kearas, Delaware battalion.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 10.

We hear from New-York, that a few days ago a man of war of forty guns came to anchor in Turtle-Bay, upon which general Washington ordered two 12 pounders to be carried to a convenient piece of ground to attack her. They soon obliged the ship to retire, having hulled her twelve times.

On the 13th ult. the continental sloop of war Schem, capt. Kobenson, of eight guns, fell in with, and after a short engagement took the brig Three Friends, Andrew Stalker, master, mounting six carriage guns, bound from Antigua to Halifax, laden with rum, sugar, &c. which arrived safe in this port on Sunday last.

IN CONGRESS, Aug. 30, 1776.

Resolved, That the communication of intelligence with frequency and dispatch from one part to another of this extensive continent, is essentially requisite to its safety; that therefore there be employed on the several post roads a rider for every twenty-five or thirty miles, whose business it shall be to proceed to his stage three times in every week, setting out immediately on receipt of the mail, and traveling with the same by night and by day, without stopping until he shall have delivered it to the next rider; and that the post master general be desired, either by the use of way-bills, or by such other means as he shall find most efficacious to prevent delays in the riders, or to discover where they happen, that such dilatory riders may be discharged.

And as it is requisite that the deputy post masters should attend with punctuality at their several offices, for the receipt and delivery of letters.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions of these states, to consider how far it may be consistent with the policy and good of their respective states, to excuse such deputy post masters from those public duties which may call them from attendance at their offices, and to proceed therein as to their wisdom shall seem best.

(Copy) Extract from the minutes, CHARLES THOMSON, secy.

Extract of a letter from Charlestown, Aug. 7.

"Not less than 2500 men are gone against the Cherokee Indians, who have Alexander Cameron at their head. An express last night from major Williamson says, our people are anxious to be amongst them. Generals Lee and Howe set off this morning for the southward, they have about 1500 men; it is said they are going to St. Augustine, where they are to make reprisals, for the emolument of each lucky and bold fellow. This will certainly be the means of keeping Georgia quiet, for the thieves at St. Augustine have committed some outrages on the back parts of that province. Our people are taking up the Acton's guns--three fine 9 pounders and a parcel of swivels were landed in town yesterday.

Sept. 11. We hear that the legislature of New-Jersey have appointed the hon. William Livingston, Esq; governor of that state.

The hon. Congress have promoted col. Adam Stevens, of Virginia (an able and experienced officer) to the rank of a brigadier general.

We hear that Lord Howe has consented to exchange gen. Sullivan and lord Stirling for gen. Prescott and gen. M' Donald.

Sept. 14. Since our last was brought in here, by the continental sloop Schem, captain Robinson, the brig Three Friends, capt. Stalker, from Antigua for Halifax, with 209 hogheads of rum; 3000 lb. of sugar, &c. The brig mounts six guns, and made battle, in which the Schem lost her mate and two hands.

For the PENNSYLVANIA EVENING POST.

FREEDOM of speech and writing on matters of public concern, having in every free country been considered the best bulwark to preserve the spirit of liberty from degenerating into supineness and slavery, it gave me great pleasure to observe, that the convention of Pennsylvania, in their declaration of the rights of the inhabitants, have

made it an object of their deliberation, viz. "That the people have a right to freedom of speech, and of writing and publishing their sentiments, therefore the freedom of the press ought not to be restrained."

On this principle I presume to offer a general hint to the consideration of the public, and hope I do not therein exceed the line of prudence, or injure the personal character of any one.

To those who indulge the idea, that the conduct of men in public stations are exempt from impartial scrutiny, entertain notions incompatible with the good of society, for it is not merely the men, but the measures, which form the good or ill of society; it is the right of examination, and to remedy the defects, that constitute the safety of the people; and when that right is infringed, the constitution falls a sacrifice to tyranny and usurpation--to appoint men of wisdom and virtue to places of public notoriety, is the characteristic of a judicious nation.--Justice and temperance should be the standard for the appointment, and the measures will ever be gloriously supported; for the end cannot be crowned with a happy success, where the means to obtain it are founded in public or private wrongs.

The statesman; the officer, quarter master, commissary, and all those in subordination to them, should be honest, disinterested and free, otherwise the people, from whom they derive all their power, and are accountable to, will feel the effects of their intemperate measures--instead of distributive justice, we shall be subdued by passion and resentment, and the property of the subject, instead of being protected, will be robbed by avaricious and wicked men.

We are now entering on a scene of public calamity, to which our feelings and possessions have before been rather strangers, and great care ought to be taken to admit none to govern us, either in a civil or military capacity, but those whose ways are marked out by justice and peace.

The Americans in general are considered as a noble and generous people, and their contest with Great-Britain founded on the rights of mankind, and, in this historic page, will fill posterity with amazement and veneration.

It will be well to examine into the propriety of the hint I have here offered, and if any advantages may be reaped from it, we shall shew our wisdom and our spirit of liberty by determining to pursue them.

CHARLESTOWN (S. Carolina) Aug. 2.

It having been deemed expedient, that the printing presses should be removed out of town during the alarm, the publication of this gazette has been necessarily discontinued for the two last months. As the transactions in this province during that period will probably make it a distinguished one in the American annals, we doubt not but a succinct account of them will be very acceptable to our readers.

On the 1st of June his excellency the president received advices of a fleet of 40 or 50 sail being at anchor about six leagues to the northward of Sullivan's island. Accounts of the arrival of Sir Peter Parker's fleet in N. Carolina, and that it was destined either for Virginia or this province, having been received about three weeks before, put it beyond a doubt that this was his fleet. Next morning the alarm was fired, expresses having been sent, ordering the county militia to town; the fortifications were all visited by his excellency and gen. Armstrong, and preparations for the most vigorous defence ordered. In the evening a man of war, thought to be a 20 gun ship, beat up to windward and anchored off the bar; next day she was joined by a frigate, and on the day following, June 4, by upwards of 50 sail of men of war, transports, tenders, &c. We have since learned, that the men of war were the Bristol of 50 guns, on board of which the commodore had his flag; the Solebay, capt. Symonds, 28; Syren, capt. Furneaux, 28; Active, capt. Williams, 28; Acton, capt. Atkins, 28; Sphinx, capt. Hunt, 20; Ranger, sloop of 8; Thunder bomb of 6 guns and 2 mortars, one of them 13 inches, and the other 11; an armed ship, called the Friendship, of 18 guns, with some smaller armed vessels. The same day capt. Mowat arrived from North-Carolina, with an express from gen. Lee, informing that the fleet had left North-Carolina, and that he would be here as speedily as possible, with several continental regiments, to our assistance.

A few days after the arrival of the fleet several transports and small armed vessels went to Long-Island, situated to the eastward of Sullivan's Island, from which it is separated by a small creek called the Breach; where they landed a large body of troops, who encamped there. The wind and tides being favourable for the four following days, about 36 vessels came over the bar, and anchored at about 3 miles distance from Sullivan's Island; two of their transports got aground in coming over; one got off, but the other went to pieces. On the 10th the Bristol came over, her guns being previously taken out.

On the 7th a boat, with a flag of truce, from the enemy, came towards the island, but was fired on by an ignorant sentinel. The boat thereupon immediately put about and would not return, notwithstanding the officer who was sent to receive the flag waved his handkerchief, and desired them to come ashore. Next day col. Moultrie sent an officer to the fleet, to acquaint them of the sentinel's having fired without orders, and that he was ready to receive any thing they had to send. Gen. Clinton was satisfied with the apology, and said the intention of the flag's being sent was only to deliver the following proclamation, which the officer brought ashore.

[The proclamation is the same with that designed for North-Carolina, inserted in this gazette, No. 1607.]

Major-general Lee, brigadier-general Howe, colonel Pullet, colonel Jenifer, Otway Byrd and Lewis Morris, Esqrs. aids de camp to gen. Lee, with some other gentlemen, arrived at Haddrell's point in the morning of the 9th. After having viewed the fortification there, and on Sullivan's and James islands, they came to town. Orders being given on the 10th for a number of buildings on the wharfs to be pulled down, intrenchments to be thrown up all around the town, and barricadoes to be made in the principal streets, every person, without distinction, were employed on these works.

On the 11th there blew a violent storm, in which an hospital ship and the Friendship, which were at anchor on the other side of the bar, were obliged to put to sea, but returned in a few days after. A schooner, having on board some provisions and coal, drifting

little pilot... their... His... to the... was volu... excepting... to the c... artillery... affent. A floo... cargo o... afternoo... make h... pilot, ru... covered... boats... crew... force, i... she was... with gre... By fou... lying ne... land for... der the... under h... diet-gen... On the... Sullivan... Lady W... ing in... several... and eve... some fie... any effe... A larg... ing... since lea... guns; n... On the... in the... guns all... a gun, a... by sever... ing on... fire quar... that time... under w... island. Next... dispositi... distance... island, c... Sphinx, ... About h... the Thu... and the... holdly u... put dow... four or f... of which... till with... ed ancho... was in a... fels, wh... cessant c... vessel wa... was hear... the island... brave gar... vinctials... teers) un... er part w... of their g... the rest o... of vetera... dreadful... Acteon a... the Midd... other: the... but the... Much ab... firing, an... have ince... it will req... vice again... crease by... came with... Till nea... out intern... and they... twenty fol... (ceased, an... About t... and sloop... cover the... paration... got into th... into our i... wounding... never onc... were stati... companies... They had... which they... reinforced... Virginia b... Next mo... were retire... had quietl... fired sever... But soon... her, leav... ammunition... southern J... went on bo... and flores... sides, he fir... less than h... up. The Brit... is very muc... balls went... m... and instea... is now h... decribly low