

is represented to congress, that such of these United States, to keep supplies or promote their own interest, have considerable quantities of cloathing, and reof the same, unless upon extravagant terms;

Extraet from the minutes, CHARLES THOMSON, secretary.

a letter from London, dated July 20.

try seem so confident of reducing the formidable force [which they have] propose, that they are already employed for keeping them in subjection altered them. Lately there was presented project for that purpose which his majesty The proposal is to keep up ten thousand two shall be battalions of artillery and goons; and to establish on the continent the titles of which shall be, the pro-English church. Such are the brilliant h are spread by the ministerial party, opposite party are labouring to destroy, to the world that the colonies combatting not yield but to force; that the force t by the mother country, which at pre-rentable will soon be reduced to no-irt consequences of it should not equal ns of administration. Dissatisfaction will nd diffuse itself through all ranks of peo-much fatigued with civil intestine war, ase the consequences must necessarily be England, especially if strangers taking ese dissensions, and in support of Ame-ack the most remote English settlements diversion which will greatly weaken the t-Britain.

rs plainly already that the formidable hich they are fitting out in the ports of ain, have no other object but war; that onvinced of this by the evasive answers mbassadors at the courts of Versailles and we have them from their representations t, that the distinguished marks of respect ey have received the deputies of congress courts, does not leave the least doubt that e already formed between them and the e effects of which in all probability will on as independence shall be declared, a cannot be at a great distance, since the at to the general congress by every of the t to that effect are already public. It is by hat opposition seeks to weaken the specious hich government employs, to warn the melancholy consequences of the war, in- hich already begins to alarm the nation."

of a letter from Fort Lee, Nov. 2.

lemen who escaped from the fleet informa e are now seventy fail of transports lying , to take three thousand troops who as ode-Island."

I AMSBURG, November 1.

from col. William Christian, to his excell- vnor, of the 14th of October, we have g intelligence, viz. That on the 13th a ame in with a flag from the Raven warrior firing peace, the night before he crossed whose reply was, that they must first e-ron the incendiary, and our prisoners in , and lay down the hatchet; otherwise he the river and lay waite their towns, only mcy to such as behaved well to the states . The colonel had good reason to believe was only sent to amuse him, although the ents of three towns, under the influence of . The man who came with the flag inform- e advanced parties of the enemy were the mp, and that the whole strength of the e be ready to dispute his crossing the riv- g, which determined the colonel immedi- about finding a proper ford, which his look- ortunate enough to discover by seeing first ver. However, an unfrequented place e was pitched upon for the purpose, and a t he set out with between ten and eleven , two hundred of them on horseback, at o'clock in the morning got safely over, nch danger and difficulty, the river being t mile broad, deep and rapid, and the so that none of the men could wade, and tly obliged to make lights. About an hour he marched to within a mile of the spe- expected the enemy were encamped, and ounded the place, but found the Indians, whereupon he ordered the remaining pa- y, with the provisions and baggage, to be ver, which was happily effected. That d- t was informed, by some spies, that the w- e nation was near him, with a determin- t attack him, and to skirmish with him on the towns. One of their principal views the cattle and horses, and in obedience ders (now at Mobile) they were relieved eace, but to fight and retreat. The com- t would take him four or five days to re- ns, as he should march very slow, and in- ble. It was reported, that Stuart was sent s, who were expected at the Cherokee tow- days. He writes, however, that he shall endeavour to have matters settled before

and returned to about Keowee after laying waste

Valley towns. Capt. James McCall, of South-Carolina, who was taken prisoner the first of July last by the Cherokees, was then with col. Christian in his camp, in good health; and desires this piece of intelligence to be made public, for the satisfaction of his family.

Of the 15th col. Christian writes, dated Broad river, that he was just then preparing to march, a little after sunrise. That capt. Gist came in the night before with a flag from the Raven warrior, to intercede for Chote, as, from the answer he received to his first flag, he had turned all of his nation that he had influence over, and moved off with his men from the Indian camp, upon which the others followed. Capt. Gist informed, that numbers yesterday morning were moving off their families and corn; that 1000 of the Valley and Lower Settlement Indians are now on this side, having quitted their country, and that Cameron will try to assemble them all some where about Hywassee, to defend that place, or bring them to fight. He also says, that there are several small parties about our camp, who will do what harm they can, but that no general battle will be fought until our army crosses the Tenebræ towards Hywassee, if the colonel follows the enemy there. Col. Christian supposes that capt. Gist's coming with a flag was only an excuse for his leaving the Indians, and that he seems sorry for what he has done, although many of the army are much exasperated against him.

ANNAPOLIS, NOVEMBER 14.

On Monday night last a small wooden building in the suburbs of this city by some accident took fire, and burnt to the ground, together with a blacksmith's shop and two or three other wooden houses.

EXTRACTS from the PROCEEDINGS of the CONVENTION, Nov. 11, 1776.

THAT to introduce the new government, an election be held for the electors of the senate, on Monday the 25th of November, in this present year; that the electors of the senate meet at Annapolis, on Monday the 5th of December, and there chuse senators; and that an election be held on Wednesday the 18th of December for delegates to serve in general assembly, and for their first session above twenty-one years of age, having a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county in which they offer to vote and residing therein, and all freemen having property in this state above the value of thirty pounds current money, and having resided in the county in which they offer to vote one whole year next preceding the election, to have a right of suffrage.

Resolved, That a committee of observation for each county in this state be elected on Monday the 25th of this present November; that the number for each county be the same as heretofore directed; that the judges appointed for the election of electors of the senate or judges of the said election, and the qualification of voters the same as for delegates to the house of delegates; that the said committees at their first meeting after the election proceed to the choice of committees for financing this in the same manner as heretofore directed, and that the above committees be invested with the powers given by this and former conventions, and continue to act till the 10th day of March next, or until the general assembly of this state shall make further order therein.

By order, G. DUVALL, clk.

A DECLARATION OF RIGHTS agreed to by the Delegates of Maryland, in free and full Convention assembled.

THE parliament of Great-Britain, by a declaratory act, having assumed a right to make laws to bind the colonies in all cases whatsoever, and in pursuance of such claim endeavoured by force of arms to subjugate the United Colonies to an unconditional submission to their will and power, and having at length constrained them to declare themselves independent states, and to assume government under the authority of the people, therefore, We, the delegates of Maryland, in free and full Convention assembled, taking into our most serious consideration the best means of establishing a good constitution in this state, for the sure foundation, and more permanent security thereof, declare,

- 1. That all government of right originates from the people, is founded in compactly, and instituted solely for the good of the whole.
2. That the people of this state ought to have the sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal government and police thereof.
3. That the inhabitants of Maryland are entitled to the common law of England, and the trial by jury, according to the course of that law, and to the benefit of such of the English statutes, as existed at the time of their first emigration, and which by experience have been found applicable to their local and other circumstances, and of such others as have been since made in England, or Great-Britain, and have been introduced, used, and practised by the courts of law or equity; and also to all acts of assembly in force on the first of June seventeen hundred and seventy-four, except such as may have since expired, or have been, or may be altered by acts of Convention or the Declaration of Rights, subject nevertheless to the revision of, and amendment or repeal by the legislature of this state; and the inhabitants of Maryland are also entitled to all property derived to them from or under the charter granted by his majesty Charles the first to Cecilius Calvert baron of Baltimore.
4. That all persons invested with the legislative or executive powers of government are the trustees of the public, and as such accountable for their con-

duct; wherefore whenever the ends of government are perverted, and public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought, to reform the old or establish a new government; the doctrine of non-resistance against arbitrary power and oppression, is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.

- 5. That the right in the people to participate in the legislature is the best security of liberty, and the foundation of all free government; for this purpose, elections ought to be free and frequent, and every man having property in, a common interest with, and attachment to the community, ought to have a right of suffrage.
6. That the legislative, executive, and judicial powers of government, ought to be for ever separate and distinct from each other.
7. That no power of suspending laws, or the execution of laws, unless derived from the legislature, ought to be exercised or allowed.
8. That freedom of speech, and debates, or proceedings, in the legislature, ought not to be impeached in any other court or judicature.
9. That a place for the meeting of the legislature ought to be fixed, the most convenient to the members thereof, and to the depository of the public records, and the legislature ought not to be convened or held at any other place but from evident necessity.
10. That for redress of grievances, and for amending, strengthening and relaxing the laws, the legislature ought to be frequently convened.
11. That every man hath a right to petition the legislature for the redress of grievances, in a peaceable and orderly manner.
12. That no aid, charge, tax, burthen, fee, or fees, ought to be set, rated or levied, under any pretence, without the consent of the legislature.
13. That the levying taxes by the poll is grievous and oppressive, and ought to be abolished; that paupers ought not to be assessed for the support of government, but every other person in the state ought to contribute his proportion of public taxes for the support of government according to his real worth in real or personal property within the state; yet fines, duties, or taxes, may properly and justly be imposed or laid with a political view for the good government and benefit of the community.
14. That sanguinary laws ought to be avoided, as far as is consistent with the safety of the state; and no law to inflict cruel and unusual pains and penalties ought to be made, in any case, or at any time hereafter.
15. That retrospective laws, punishing facts committed before the existence of such laws, and by them only declared criminal, are oppressive, unjust, and incompatible with liberty; wherefore no post facto law ought to be made.
16. That no law to attain particular persons of treason or felony ought to be made in any case, or at any time hereafter.
17. That every freeman for any injury done to him in his person or property ought to have remedy by the course of the law of the land, and ought to have justice and right, freely without sale, fully without any denial, and speedily without delay, according to the law of the land.
18. That the trial of facts where they arise is one of the greatest securities of the lives, liberties, and estate of the people.
19. That in all criminal prosecutions, every man hath a right to be informed of the accusation against him, to have a copy of the indictment or charge in due time (if required) to prepare for his defence, to be allowed counsel, to be confronted with the witnesses against him, to have process for his witnesses, to examine the witnesses for and against him on oath, and to a speedy trial by an impartial jury, without whose unanimous consent he ought not to be found guilty.
20. That no man ought to be compelled to give evidence against himself in a court of common law, or in any other court, but in such cases as have been usually practised in this state, or may hereafter be directed by the legislature.
21. That no freeman ought to be taken, or imprisoned, or distressed of his freehold, liberties, or privileges, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any manner destroyed, or deprived of his life, liberty, or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or by the law of the land.
22. That excessive bail ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel or unusual punishments inflicted by the court of law.
23. That all warrants without oath or affirmation, to search suspected places, or to seize any person, or property, are grievous and oppressive; and all general warrants to search suspected places, or to apprehend suspected persons, without naming or describing the place, or the person in special, are illegal, and ought not to be granted.
24. That there ought to be no forfeiture, of any part of the estate of any person for any crime, except murder, or treason against the state, and then only on conviction and attainder.
25. That a well regulated militia is the proper and natural defence of a free government.
26. That standing armies are dangerous to liberty, and ought not to be raised or kept up without consent of the legislature.
27. That in all cases the military ought to be under strict discipline, and controul of the civil power.
28. That no soldier ought to be quartered in any

house in time of peace, without the consent of the owner; and, in time of war, in such manner only as the legislature shall direct.

- 29. That no person except regular soldiers, mariners and marines in the service of this state, or militia when in actual service; ought in any case to be subject to, or punishable by, martial law.
30. That the independency and uprightness of judges are essential to the impartial administration of justice, and a great security to the rights and liberties of the people; wherefore the chancellor and all judges ought to hold commissions during good behaviour, and the said chancellor and judges shall be removed for misbehaviour on conviction in a court of law, and may be removed by the governor upon the address of the general assembly, provided that two thirds of all the members of each house concur in such address. That salaries liberal but not profuse ought to be secured to the chancellor and the judges during the continuance of their commissions, in such manner and at such time as the legislature shall hereafter direct upon consideration of the circumstances of this state: No chancellor or judge ought to hold any other office civil or military, or receive fees or perquisites of any kind.
31. That a long continuance in the first executive departments of power or trust is dangerous to liberty, a rotation therefore in those departments is one of the best securities of permanent freedom.
32. That no person ought to hold at the same time more than one office of profit, nor ought any person in public trust to receive any present from any foreign prince or state, or from the United States, or any of them, without the approbation of this state.
33. That as it is the duty of every man to worship God in such manner as he thinks most acceptable to him, all persons professing the christian religion are equally entitled to protection in their religious liberty, wherefore no person ought by any law to be molested in his person or estate on account of his religious persuasion or profession, or for his religious practice, unless under colour of religion any man shall disturb the good order, peace, or safety of the state, or shall infringe the laws of morality, or injure others in their natural, civil or religious rights; nor ought any person to be compelled to frequent or maintain, or contribute, unless on contract, to maintain any particular place of worship, or any particular ministry; yet the legislature may in their discretion lay a general and equal tax for the support of the christian religion, leaving to each individual the power of appointing the payment over of any money collected from him, to the support of any particular place of worship or minister, or for the benefit of the poor of his own denomination, or the poor in general of any particular county; but the churches, chapels, glebes, and all other property now belonging to the church of England, ought to remain to the church of England for ever. And all acts of assembly lately passed for collecting monies for building or repairing particular churches or chapels of ease shall continue in force and be executed, unless the legislature shall by act supercede or repeal the same; but no court shall assess any quantity of tobacco or sum of money hereafter on the application of any vestryman or churchwardens: and every incumbent of the church of England who hath remained in his parish and performed his duty, shall be entitled to receive the provision and support established by the act entitled, "An act for the support of the clergy of the church of England in this province," till the November court of this present year, to be held for the county in which his parish shall lie, or partly lie, or for such time as he hath remained in his parish and performed his duty.
34. That every gift, sale, or devise of lands to any minister, public teacher or preacher of the gospel; as such, or to any religious sect, order or denomination, or to or for the support, use or benefit of, or in trust for, any minister, public teacher or preacher of the gospel, as such, or any religious sect, order or denomination; and every gift or sale of goods or chattels to go in succession, or to take place after the death of the seller or donor, or to or for such support, use or benefit; and also every devise of goods or chattels to, or to or for the support, use or benefit of any minister, public teacher or preacher of the gospel, as such, or any religious sect, order or denomination, without the leave of the legislature, shall be void; except always any sale, gift, lease or devise of any quantity of land not exceeding two acres, for a church, meeting, or other house of worship, and for a burying ground, which shall be improved, enjoyed or used only for such purpose, or such sale, gift, lease or devise shall be void.
35. That no other test or qualification ought to be required on admission to any office of trust or profit, than such oath of support and fidelity to this state, and such oath of office as shall be directed by this Convention or the legislature of this state, and a declaration of a belief in the christian religion.
36. That the manner of administering an oath to any person, ought to be such as those of the religious persuasion, profession or denomination of which such person is one, generally esteem the most effectual confirmation by the attestation of the divine being. And that the people called quakers, those called dunkers, and those called menonites, holding it unlawful to take an oath on any occasion; ought to be allowed to make their solemn affirmation in the manner that quakers have been heretofore allowed to affirm, and to be of the same avail as an oath in