

A LETTER from Paris mentions, that the French king has given orders to augment the pay of all the officers who were reduced in 1774, and to fill up the vacancies that may happen in the standing regiments with such of them as are found fit for immediate service.

Extra of a letter from Amsterdam, July 5.

The armaments in France are very considerable. Seamen are taken into the king's service in every port, as fast as they arrive, not (they say) with a view of entering into a direct war with Great Britain, but in the first place to put their West-India islands in proper state of defence; and in the next place to have it more in their power to favour and protect their trade with North America, which is of great advantage to them: it is certain that it is much encouraged by their ministry. A considerable quantity of rice is arrived at Nantes, which has reduced the price of that article to nineteen livres, and 600 hogheads of tobacco which was immediately bought up by the farmers general.

Aug. 16. It is not owing to the interference of France, but to the absolute refusal of the empress, that we have not had a body of Russians to assist in the conquest of America. The Czarina positively declared that she would not part with a single sentinel if he was to act against America.

The scribbles for ministry now and then insult the good sense of the public with accounts of the vast armies of Russians who are to assist in reducing the Americans. Let one of these poor creatures subscribe but his name to a single assertion of the kind; let the minister himself only dare to affirm, that he can obtain a single regiment from Russia, and he shall be exposed for a political impostor. The empress of Russia has refused to lend a soldier for the purpose. The principal object of her reign is to render her people free. She will not assist in enervating the subjects of any state.

The conduct of the empress of Russia does honour to her heart and heart. Although, by the constitution of her country, she is to all intents and purposes despotic, yet she conceives that the liberty of her people is the most solid foundation of absolute power. By exerting her influence to make her people free, she reigns in their hearts. The ministry of poor Blunderland have other notions of government.

On Sunday last Mr. Payne the constable, better known by the name of The Little English Carpenter, presented the following petition to his majesty. Mr. Payne delivered it into the king's own hand.

"Most gracious sovereign,

"YOUR majesty's most loyal and faithful subject ventures once more to approach your royal person in behalf of all your poor subjects in every part of your majesty's dominions. The rev. Mr. Wesley has declared, that thousands of them, about 100 miles from the metropolis (on account of the unnatural war now carrying on) are in the utmost distress for want of employ, and are obliged, for want of bread, to go into the fields and pick up the fragments of turnips the cattle have left. A dreadful sight in a christian country! There is a day coming when somebody must answer for this before the awful judge of the quick and dead, for we must all appear before the judgment-seat of Christ; kings as well as beggars must stand at God's awful bar; then the wicked will be turned into hell, with all the nations that forget God, for it is written, The proud, yea and all who do wickedly, shall be stubble, and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, and shall leave them neither root nor branch. Oh that the people of this land were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end, and apply their hearts unto wisdom! then, instead of flocking to the play-house, to hear a number of idle stories, they would be reading and meditating on the word of GOD, which alone is able to make them wise unto salvation; if this was more the practice, we should hear less cursing and swearing in our streets, less robbing and plundering one another, and less debauchery up and down the land: I fear there is too much of it among the great, who ought to set a good example to their inferiors; but we are a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evil doers, and the judgments of God seem to hang over our heads. How is the day of the lord prophesied, and is now become a day of trade, notwithstanding it is both against the law of God and the land! It is high time for your majesty to proclaim a fast, and call a solemn assembly, for in vain do we trust to our fleets and armies, if God fights against us. Hear the word of the Lord: Cursed is man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm. May your majesty learn of your American subjects; notwithstanding the many thousand brave fellows their country abounds with, they have thought it necessary to implore the Divine assistance, and prosper what they think is lawful, and God has hitherto given them prosperity, and made them victorious (if the public accounts are true) over your majesty's forces, almost in every engagement. May the GOD of mercy soon put a stop to the bloody war, before the kingdom is totally ruined. Can no moderate means be used to unite us and the colonies once more together as the heart of one man? then, under God, we may bid defiance to all the world; but, if the word of God is true, A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. Surely no one can deny that to be the case at present with this once happy land. Let mercy (that darling attribute of God, and the brightest jewel in your majesty's crown) sway the sceptre, and convince all the enemies of peace, both here and in America; that you are indeed a compassionate father of all your children, notwithstanding many of them are very undutiful. That sacred scripture which says, Children obey your parents, likewise adds, Parents provoke not your children to wrath. I hope your majesty, out of your wonted goodness, will point out some method of reconciliation before it is too late, and I doubt not but your majesty's American children will humbly submit and rejoice at the thought of once more enjoying peace in their borders; then trade and commerce will soon flourish again, and cheerfulness appear in every countenance; then the people would, as in tune past, shout and say,

God save the king!—May the Lord of Hosts and the God of Battles, who has the hearts of all men in his hand, incline those great men who are at the head of affairs, to study for peace, before it is for ever hid from our eyes. Blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called the children of God: If they only are the children of God, who must be the father of the contrary party? How many brave fellows have already fell in battle, both of your English and American subjects, God only knows, but the time may soon come when they may be wanted to oppose your majesty's popish advisers, who are no doubt laughing at our present calamity, and longing to sheath their swords in the bowels of your majesty's protestant subjects; for popery is still the same, and its abettors only want an opportunity to convince us of it. But may God preserve your majesty, with your royal consort, our gracious and much beloved Queen, with your numerous and tender offspring, who sit like olive branches round about your table, from popish darkness and arbitrary power.

"So prays, and so wishes, your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subject,

WILLIAM PAYNE, Carpenter, Temple bar."

Just published, and to be sold at the Printing-office,

THE DECLARATION OF RIGHTS, AND THE CONSTITUTION X AND FORM OF GOVERNMENT,

ESTABLISHED BY THE CONVENTION OF MARYLAND, Held at the city of ANNAPOLIS, on Wednesday the 14th of August, anno domini, 1776.

Gentlemen Freeholders and Free Voters of Anne-Arundel county,

THE 18th day of December next being the time appointed for the choice of a sheriff for this county, occasions this address to you. I have, gentlemen, been appointed to that office some small time, during which, I trust I have executed my duty with honesty and fidelity: This emboldens me to solicit your suffrages at the day of election.

I am the public's true and faithful servant, THOMAS DEALE.

THERE is at the plantation of Abraham Woodward, jun. living in Anne-Arundel county, near the head of Severn, two stray cows, about seven years old: The one a red cow, marked with a crop in each ear; the other a black one, with a crop in the right ear. The owner, or owners, may have them again, on proving property and paying charges.

St. Mary's county, November 11, 1776.

THIS is to inform the public that John Kelly hath a bond in his hands which appears to be for sixty pounds of common money, which he has offered to sell; I have paid forty pounds of the above bond, which he has given no credit for; the balance is not due till next February. The bond was given for 48 acres of land; which he has given a general warrantee for. It appears I shall lose part of the land; I therefore forewarn all persons from purchasing the above bond.

LEONARD WATKIN.

FOUR DOLLARS REWARD.

STRAYED or stolen, from the plantation of Mr. William Wilkinon, in Prince George's county, some time in October last, two dark bay geldings: The one about 14 hands high, a natural pacer, branded on the near buttock thus, I D, and has the marks of old age; the other about 12 or 13 hands high, branded as above, paces slow, trots and canters, and hath a star, or a few white hairs, in his forehead. Whoever takes up and secures the said horses, or either of them, so that the owner may get them again, shall receive the above reward, or a proportion thereof, as the case may be, paid by the subscriber, living in Charles county, near Pomonkey.

JOHN DENT.

November 13, 1776.

THE partnership of SHAW and CHISHOLM, cabinet-makers in Annapolis, being now dissolved, those persons who are indebted to them in company are requested to settle the same, as soon as possible, with JOHN SHAW, at the house lately occupied by the company, or with ARCHIBALD CHISHOLM, at the house lately possessed by Mr. Charles Peale, in Church-street, where each party intends carrying on their business of cabinet and chair making as formerly.

THOMAS HARWOOD, jun. treasurer of the Western-shore, will give constant attendance at his office in West-street, Annapolis, to give in exchange bills of credit emitted by the Provincial Convention of Maryland the seventh day of December, 1775; for those emitted by the Convention the twenty-sixth day of July, 1775.

Annapolis, Aug. 14, 1776. LOST, on Monday the 5th inst. a small flat double cased watch, winds up in the back, and has a small screw in one part of the dial plate; maker's name John Deards, London, No. 16. Whoever will bring the said watch to me shall receive three pounds reward, and if offered for sale please to stop it.

JAMES MAWE.

ANNAPOLIS HEAD QUARTERS, 31 July, 1776.

THE benevolent people of this city, and country, are earnestly requested to send all the old sheets, and other old linen, they can conveniently spare, to Dr. Richard Tootell. Their donations will be received (with thanks) either at the doctor's own house or at the military hospital shop, on the State-house hill, where the free-school was formerly kept. Bees and myrtle wax, sassafras, seneca and black snake-roots, tormentil and calamus, are purchased. Likewise country sarsaparilla, if clean, split and well cured. Dog-wood berries, which must be gathered ripe, and cured in the shade; when dried, if found they will appear of a dark red, if black they are faulty and will not answer the purpose.

R. TOOTELL, S. M.

Annapolis, June 19, 1776. WANTED TO HIRE IMMEDIATELY, A SINGLE MAN, who understands waiting at table, and can write a good hand. Such a person, of good character, may hear of a place, where good encouragement will be given, by applying to the printer hereof.

THREE PENCE per pound is given for fine white LINEN RAGS, and one penny per pound for coarse, by the Printer hereof.

Annapolis, October 10, 1776. THE CONVENTION of this province having thought proper to pass a resolve, that no bonds in the LOAN-OFFICE be put in suit for non-payment of interest before the 1st day of January next, those in arrears are requested to take notice, that no further indulgence will be given. JOHN CLAPHAM, WILLIAM EDDIE.

To be sold, on Saturday the 21st day of December, 1776.

NEAR 400 acres of valuable land, lying in the upper part of Anne-Arundel county, joining the plantation where I formerly lived: This land is exceedingly well adapted to corn, wheat, rye, and sea tobacco. There are also 140 acres of fine meadow ground, equal to any in this province, six acres of which are cleared, well set with timothy grass, under a good fence, and now rents for 21. a year. There is a good orchard, and ground enough cleared to make 200 barrels of corn the ensuing summer. It is situated in a good neighbourhood, is about 12 miles from Elkridge landing, about 15 miles from Ellicott's mills, and about 23 from Bladensburg; There is a fine and extensive range. Any person inclinable to purchase, may view the land before the day of sale, by applying to capt. Benjamin Warfield, who lives near it. The terms will be made known on the day of sale, by Nicholas Dorsey, son of Joshua, on Elkridge, or by the subscriber.

JOHN WAYMAN.

Will be exposed to sale to the highest bidder, for ready money, on the 10th day of December next agreeable to the last will and testament of John Young, deceased.

ONE hundred acres of land, lying in Talbot county, in Miles-River Neck, near the ferry, with a large good dwelling-house, with all other houses suitable to it, with two bearing orchards thereon. The sale to be on the premises. Likewise some stock and household furniture.

For further particulars enquire of James Benson, near the said land. MARY YOUNG, Executrix.

To be sold at public sale, on Tuesday the 10th day of December next (if fair, if not, the next fair day) at the dwelling-house of the late Mr. Benjamin Harrison, at West-River, for bills of exchange, sterling cash, or current money, at an exchange to be agreed upon on the day of sale.

A PARCEL of healthy NEGROES, consisting of men, women and children, among whom are two young fellows who are good sawyers.—All persons indebted to the estate of Benjamin Harrison are desired to make immediate payment; those who have claims are desired to make them known to SAM. HARRISON, SAM. HARRISON, jun. } Executors.

Prince-George's county, November 10, 1776. STRAYED or stolen from the subscriber, living near Snowdens iron-works, a dark bay mare, about most black, quarter blooded, about fourteen hands high, with a white spot on her withers about as big as a man's hand; she trots and gallops and has been lately docked; she has a small tall, low neck, her mane hangs each side on her neck; she is low in flanks, and suckled a colt when taken away; she has no perceptible brand. Any person who apprehends the rogue and secures the mare, so that the owner may get her again, shall receive five pounds reward; if strayed, twenty shillings, paid by THOMAS GASSAWAY WATKINS.