

had interposed as a mediator, and endeavoured to accommodate the dispute between the two powers; that his mediation promised a happy accommodation, and, in all probability, the dispute would terminate amicably. It was also true that France had some time been busy in warlike preparations, and that she was now fitting out a small armament; he called it a small one, as he was well informed it consisted only of six ships of the line, and four frigates. From the present assurances of the court of France, and those assurances were as strong as words could make them, that kingdom had no design to molest England. To prepare for the worst, however, his majesty had thought it right to be able to cope with any enemy. It has been said that our frigates were all abroad; the assertion went too far; many were with Lord Howe, but several were at home, and several were now building; and it was well known frigates were sooner built than larger shipping. We had twenty-three guard-ships, which were partly manned, and twelve more ships of the line ready for sea, all but manning, and that would, his lordship doubted not, be soon effected. In fact, all our large ships were at home but two or three.

His lordship declared he verily believed France had not any intention of disturbing us; but he begged it to be understood that he spoke only as to the present time. He was no prophet, and therefore he made no pretensions to a knowledge of futurity.

His lordship observed that an honorable gentleman had declared one part of his majesty's speech was certainly designed as a stroke of honour, as the sentence could not carry a serious meaning. He begged to read the sentence. The words of it were, "My desire is to restore to them the blessings of law and liberty." This his lordship humbly conceived was perfectly intelligible, and as sound logic as the English language could convey. Law and liberty were undoubtedly fled from America; his was the land of law and liberty. He thanked God the present debate proved it, proved that liberty of speech, the freedom of thought, that freedom of action existed here; and he begged to tell the gentlemen, who had in the course of the debate thrown out so many severe reflections on administration, that it was well for them they were not in America, and had not used the same expressions against the Congress. They would then have found the difference of the two countries; they would have found that both law and liberty were banished from America. His lordship declared he applauded the spirit of enquiry which actuated the gentlemen who thought differently from administration; and although he was in consequence the frequent object of their attack, he wished it might continue.

His lordship denied that our troops, or those employed by us, had massacred any of the rebels in cold blood, and particularly cleared the Hessians from the prisons, proving that four hundred of the prisoners were taken by the Hessians. His lordship said, that in the heat of battle some of the rebels might first fire, then run and cry out quarter; that some of these might possibly have been put to the bayonet, but he conceived, no man would throw out a general censure on account of a particular accident.

After having spoke with great fervour and plainness to every part of the debate which he recollected that the minister had been called upon, his lordship begged pardon of the house for having taken up so much of their time about himself; he said, he rejected the amendment, as it tended to desire his majesty to set on foot an endless and ill-timed enquiry to procrastinate events which, in all probability, would soon be produced, and to render fruitless every operation which had taken place; he concluded with declaring, that it had ever been his wish, and of every other servant of the king, to bring matters to as early a conclusion, and with as little bloodshed as possible; to use the present successes, and the victory, if it was gained, with prudence and moderation and rather as a means of cementing a lasting union and amity, than as objects of triumph or instruments for forging the chains of slavery, and excuses for tyranny and oppression.

Col. Earle, adm. Keppel, and Mr. Fox, spoke after his lordship. In the speech of the first we were given to understand, from an extract of a news-paper, produced by the colonel, and stated by him as a well authenticated account of what passed between col. Patterson and gen. Washington, when the former was dispatched to the letter to treat with him from gen. Howe, that his majesty's commissioners had broken through a positive act of parliament, but without producing the desired effect. The colonel, after fully giving the text and context of the above circumstance, threatened the minister with the loss of his head, and held up a picture of great horror, shewing that we were on the eve of a most serious war with France, who would begin her attack within the hearing of the members who sat in parliamentary debate.

Adm. Keppel merely shewed the defenceless state of the kingdom, from her unprepared navy. Mr. Fox was ardent against administration, but endeavoured to rescue gen. Clinton from the censure which had been thrown out on him. At half after eleven the house divided on the previous question, moved on the amendment motion; when the numbers were, 242 for the question, 82 against it. They then divided again on the motion for the address, when the numbers were, 242 for the question, 67 against it.

**B O S T O N,** February 23, It is said, that a French frigate from Martinico has taken an English frigate and carried her to that island. Last week arrived at Ipswich, from Halifax, a schooner, laden chiefly with English goods, who left it the 3d of January: the captain of which informs, that there have been four American privateers carried into that port lately, taken by the Milford and Liverpool pirate frigates—that the noted capt. Burr, of the Milford, died at Halifax lately, and the command of his ship was given to the well known brutal Henry Mawatt, who cruelly plundered and burnt Casco Bay.—That lieutenant Knight, a prisoner of the British navy, who was taken some time since, in the Diligence schooner, by capt. Jeremiah Obrien, had, with his officers, together with a number of English captains, who lately went in a cartel from Marblehead, fitted out a privateer brig at

that place, mounting 14 guns, and carrying 85 men; she is now cruising on this coast and commanded by laid Knight.—That Dawson has his brig cleaned and altered every cruise; she is now painted black, with an intention of deceiving our cruisers; he carries 70 men, and is cruising in the bay of Fundy, together with the Albany Philadelphia built ship, of 18 guns, commanded by a lieutenant—that the Milford and Liverpool frigates are careening in dock there, as are several other frigates and tenders, supposed to get in readiness to watch the motions of our navy—that our countrymen, to the number of about 200, are confined on board the Bellona guard-ship of 50 guns, where they are treated in the usual barbarous manner by the inhuman commodore Arbuthnot—that col. Lanes, whom Gorham sent prisoner in irons, died very suddenly at Windsor—that they are daily apprehending and committing to goal, persons in that place, for entertaining sentiments favourable to the American states—that the few refugees who fled from this city, and still continue at that place, are treated with the greatest contempt by the inhabitants in general there—that the provisions in the province are very dear and scarce, and a number of families in a very wretched condition for want of necessities of life—that Dawson had a considerable number of his men killed in the engagement with capt. Sampson, and greatly wounded—that two frigates lay near Fort Cumberland—that they expect an attack that way very shortly—that a cartel, with a number of prisoners, was preparing to come to this port, no doubt, with an intention to gain what intel. they can, in regard to the situation of our force in this state—that capt. Sampson and his men, are treated severely, and were, when first taken, put in irons; they are now in close confinement on board the guard-ship in the bay.

One of capt. Sampson's lieutenants, and a number of his men, made their escape in the above vessel.

A gentleman from Halifax informs, "That when the HOWE's proclamation was proffered to the American prisoners there, to sign (notwithstanding they were confined on board a guard-ship, and told that gen. Howe was in possession of Philadelphia), like true Americans, to a man, none consented to accept it; they declared, they refused to sign on or persons proffered; but their Maker, nor ever would while they had existence.—A noble example! worthy the imitation of every American." On South Br. demand.

A letter from an officer at Philipps Manor, dated February 1, 1777, says, "Since our arrival here, have been in sight of the enemy every day, at Kingbridge, and at Fort Independence. At our first coming, we were encamped about half a mile from the fort, in the open field, for five days, but were then obliged to retreat back, on account of a heavy snow storm, and the coming of the enemy, but we have not lost a single man out of our regiment. Our regiment are now on this side of the fort; independence, and two regiments of the other side. The fort is about half a mile from Kingbridge, and on the York side. We have lately been down within half a mile of the fort, with two field-pieces, &c. but could not persuade the enemy to come out to fight us. They have got almost all their troops out of York, on their lines and in the three forts, to prevent our going into the city; for this morning we got down here we threw them into great confusion, and took a considerable quantity of their baggage, and we now possess their advance guard-houses."

The following MONUMENT was erected over the graves of the following heroes who were inhumanly murdered by a body of savages, on the 13th of June, in 1776, by order of general Sullivan, the commander there.

**B E - E A T H** this humble SOD Lie. Captain **ADAMS,** Lieutenant **CULEBRISON,** And 2 privates of the 6th Pennsylvania battalion, Not hirelings—Eu—Paroits. They fell not in battle; but unarmed, Were basely murdered, and inhumanly scaped, By the barbarous emissaries of the once just, But now abandon'd kingdom of Britain. Sons of America! rest in quiet here! Britannia blush! Burgoyne let fall a tear! But tremble Europe's sons with savage race, Death and revenge await you with disgrace. Use aux Noix, June 21, 1776.

**W I L L I A M S B U R G,** February 21. *Extract of a letter from Winchester, Feb. 14.* "We have certain accounts from the Ohio, that Mr. George Rogers Clark, and Mr. John-Gabriel-Jones, the two gentlemen delegated by the inhabitants of Kentucky to represent them in assembly, were killed, and three others in company with them, by the Indians, below the mouth of Scioto, on their return; and a quantity of ammunition, which was sent by them for the defence of that settlement, fell into the hands of the savages."

**A N N A P O L I S,** MARCH 6. On Saturday last the lady of his excellency general Washington arrived in town, and on Monday morning set out for Baltimore on her way to the Northward. And on Tuesday evening his excellency Thomas Johnson, jun. Esq; governor of this state, arrived here.

*Extract of a letter from head-quarters, Morris-Town, February 23, 1777, Sunday night.* "We have had a small alarm here this afternoon; general Sullivan wrote from Chatham, that general Maxwell, by express from Westfield, informed him, that a large body of the enemy were within three miles of that place, and advised the removal of the stores from Chatham. The enemy were advancing between three and four this afternoon, but their number is unknown, ham and this place. We have been for some time threatened with a visit. "The enemy must, say they intend to open the campaign with their present force; no reinforcement can arrive from Europe before the middle of the summer. They are well acquainted with our present situa-

tion, and are now making every preparation for a vigorous and sudden blow: they will be ready in a few days to take the field. Pray exert yourselves, and put forward the new levies; fight an hour, not a moment, to be lost. In consequence of the requisit of our brave and worthy general, congress directed all officers in arms, leaving proper officers to recruit: I trust it is not been fully attended to as it ought. Be assured that the States have it now in their power not only to keep the enemies of their peace in a state of confusion, but sent confined limits, but utterly to rout and destroy them, if they would but exert themselves. Call on all your hearts, conjure them, by the love they bear their country, instantly to march, to fly to the standard of the virtuous Washington; shew them the danger of delay, the loss of the glory, the honour, which may attend the aid."

**PREROGATIVE OFFICE,** February 28, 1777. THE several **DEPUTY COMMISSARIES** and hereby requested to make immediate return on the office, of a land every official paper in their possession for the purpose of clearing the business of that office. **ELIE VALLETTE,** Sec. Clk. *This business may die the office, and great care must be taken to prevent any DEFERENCE, will be paid at Baltimore's Tavern on Monday the 10th instant, by* **W. PALACE AND DAVIDSON.**

**SUNDRY** kinds of **HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,** such as Sundry which are now on hand, blankets, &c. The lot to be sold at public vendue, for ready money, on Friday the 13th inst. if fair, otherwise the next following day at the inn keeper's plantation on the North side of Severn river. **DAVID KERR.**

**WILL** cover **MARES** this season at col. Sturges plantation on the North side of Severn river (seven miles from Annapolis) at three pounds per mare, and a dollar to the groom. He is 25 years of age, a complete horse; he was got by gen. Henthorn, son of Old Blane, who was got by Sturges and the celebrated mare by Old Blane, son of Old Blane, and a great many more, but they are not to be had. His name is Mares, got by the Godolphin.

**FOUR DOLLARS** AWARD. **LOST** from Capt. Alexander Murray's regiment, a black horse, named WALTER, about 10 years old, 15 hands high, as white as snow or 12 inches high, had on a red and white blanket overcoat, round hat, and shoes tied with strings; his feet have been trodden down. If any one has seen him, or knows his whereabouts, he will take up the said man, so that the subscriber may see him again, shall have the above reward.

**ALEXANDER MURRAY,** THIRTEEN POUNDS REWARD. **WHERAS** a negro man named **NED,** the property of the subscriber, lately advertised by Mr. Francis Rawlings, to whom he was hired, is absconding. He is a stout likely fellow, about 25 years of age, about 5 feet 6 inches high, smooth faced and thick lips; he has a wife at Mr. James Warren's in Prince-George's county, and it is likely he is in that neighbourhood, as he was seen lately going that way. Any person who will take up said negro, and send him in any goal within this state, or deliver him to Mr. Francis Rawlings on Grenberry's Point, shall be entitled to the above reward, besides what the law allows, and all reasonable charges, paid by the subscriber.

**DAVID KERR,** Calvert county, February 19, 1777. **COMMITTED** to my custody as a runaway, a likely negro fellow named **HARRY,** appears to be about 25 years of age; he says that he now belongs to col. Barnes, at Leonard-Town, St. Mary's county. His master is desired to take him away and pay charges to **JAMES MORSELL,** Sheriff.

**THE COMMITTEE** of AGGRIEVANCES, and **COURTS OF JUSTICE,** will sit to do business in the committee-room, on Mondays and Tuesdays in every week, from the hours of nine in the morning till one in the afternoon, during the present session of the general assembly. Signed by order of the committee, **JOHN JOHNSON,** clerk.

**THE** subscriber intending to leave this State (and desires all persons indebted to him to settle and pay their balances before the 1st of March next. Any person having any just claim on him may receive it on demand.

**WILLIAM DEARDS;** **STAYED** or stolen from the subscriber's plantation, near Newport, in Charles county, about the last of October, a yellow bay mare, about thirteen hands high, ten years old; her legs, belly, flanks, nose, and round her eyes, mealy, a few white hairs in her forehead, which makes a kind of star; she trot and gallops; her brand, if any, unknown. Whoever takes up the said mare, and brings her to the subscriber's plantation, or to Mr. Thomas Reeder, at Newport, shall receive three dollars reward.

**WALTER COMPTON,** printer.