

met with an affront, was gone or going home, much regretted, and by all accounts his corps was much reduced in point of numbers.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Albany to his friend in this city, dated July 10, 1777.

"The seventh instant we had a report of the loss of Fort Mifflin and Mount Independence, without a single circumstance, of consequence not easily credited. Put at night Col. Hay, D. Q. M. general, who was the last off the ground, and had left Fort Anne that morning, arrived; by him we got an account that the evacuation of those posts was made the most sudden, and with the greatest confusion and precipitation, after a council of war of the general officers, to the great regret of the army, who were in high spirits, and engaged at leaving every thing behind them.

Gen. St. Clair retreated with the main body of the garrison, by the way of Castletown, and as yet has not been heard of this way. What batteaus were fit for service, it is said about seventy, with some armed schooners, and two howitz and about five or six hundred men, retreated by water up the south bay to Skeenborough, and had got within two miles of that place, when the wind falling, and being closely pursued by the enemy who had a bomb ketch that out-sailed them, after engaging them some time, not being able to tow them quite to the landing to get some cannon on shore to make a stand, were obliged to abandon boats and vessels, and were attacked by the enemy, who they beat back; and as Mr. Winslow has left the pay office and in the artillery, Mr. Pierce got up just time to secure the military chest and public papers which Mr. Winslow had caused to be put into a batteau; as for giving you any distinct particulars, it is impossible. We have lost all our cannon, ammunition, stores, provisions, medicines, and baggage, tents, boats, and vessels; not a single thing destroyed, as we hear.

"The day of the retreat the garrison was reinforced with eight hundred men, who drove in ninety head of fat cattle, all which we believe are gone, with all the waggons, ox teams and horses, both public and private. The enemy then attacked our people, who were retired to Fort Anne, they consisted of a party of eight armed foragers, and, it is said, some Canadians and Indians; they were beat back to Skeenborough, and our party surrounded a large scouting party of the enemy, and sent to general Schuyler, who is at Fort Edward, for a supply of ammunition, which was immediately sent. The Caivrick militia requested to turn out volunteers to go with it, they came up with the enemy, had a smart skirmish, took a captain, lieutenant, ensign, doctor, and some privates, prisoners. Major Kanialaer, brother to Phil. is wounded, having his thigh broke. Half the militia, on the first alarm, was ordered up, and since that the other half; and yesterday gen. Nixon set off for Fort Edward with his brigade, suppose a out a thousand. You know what dependance can be placed on the militia of this county. If gen. Schuyler can but collect a respectable army of continental troops and militia at Fort Edward, this country may be saved; otherwise nothing can prevent their forming a junction, if gen. Howe comes up, as Sir John Johnston is at Oswego it is reported, with eight hundred men besides Indians, others say only forty-five regulars, some Canadians and Indians, inviting the Indians to meet him there with Butler, that he may speak to them of peace, as the commissioners at Albany have done; and desires them only to go with him as companions, and see how brave he is; he does not want any assistance, he tells them.

"I now take off my pen, to hear farther. Seven o'clock in the evening; Mr. Tucker and Dr. Potts are just come in; they left gen. St. Clair with the main body, at some place between Bennington and Castletown; that they are to be with gen. Schuyler at eleven o'clock to-morrow morning; much fatigued, but in good spirits. By their accounts the rear of general St. Clair's was attacked about seventeen miles from Mount Independence, and five from Castletown, by eighteen companies of light infantry and grenadiers, and were engaged for two hours; our main body was got into Castletown, and on hearing the firing, some regiments were detached to support the rear guard, when both parties quitted the firing and retreated, seemingly satisfied with each other. A col. Reed, a gentleman of veracity, declared he counted, with the point of his sword in a certain circumference, fifty of the enemy lying, and from the appearance of the slain lying about, he believes on his honour, they must have lost three hundred dead on the field; what our loss is cannot say, but there are four or five hundred missing in that affair. Our people fell in with a foraging party, one capt. Frazer, forty-five regulars and a number of Canadian and Indians; they say they drove the party, and got possession of their cattle, on which they lived, having taken no provisions with them from Mount Independence.

"Of the prisoners taken in the affair, when major Ransalaer was wounded, a capt. Montgomery, a relation of gen. Montgomery, wounded in the leg, and a doctor, are come in. By the last accounts from headquarters, we have a strong party at Fort Anne, have brought off from Fort George forty pieces of cannon, fifteen tons of powder, a quantity of provisions, and getting away the remainder of the stores, to be in readiness to destroy the vessels on that lake, and evacuate that post which is useless to us, unless we had a strong army here. Gen. Schuyler and the troops with him in good spirits; the militia from every part moving up, but I hope that will not prevent continental troops coming, for in them is all our hopes. Oh for some Virginian riflemen, col. Morgan's regiment would be of great use this way. It is reported that the road to the eastward are full of men, but I much fear it is tory news to make people as ready to turn out, as was the case after the death of gen. Montgomery, when they were afraid we should have twice the number of men necessary, to get few or none. We shall however keep ourselves in readiness to secure the public paper and our baggage, but which way, have not yet determined, should we be obliged to move."

Extra of a letter from Amsterdam, dated March 22, 1777.

"If the brave Americans can support themselves this campaign, I consider them as free and independent, for England this summer will be ruined, and will no longer insult France and Spain, who are in such a respectable situation as to be able to check her arrogance; and no doubt but she must be greatly vexed to

see Americans in alliance with France and Spain, and their vessels protected by the former.

"We this morning hear that sixty Hessians have deserted from one of the transports at Dorte, that they are in general discontented, and will desert the first opportunity, in Europe and America."

Description of counterfeit continental eight dollar bills, dated May 9, 1776.—They are done from copper-plate, or other engraving; the words in the face of the bill are crowded together, so as scarce to leave any space between them; the letters stand very irregular, and in some lines are smaller than others, whereas in the true bills they are all uniform, with regular spaces between the words. The o in No. is much smaller than the true ones; in the words EIGHT, of the denomination, the top of the T is strait, which should be thus T; in the second line the word Bearer is close to the bottom of the large T, which is not so in the genuine bills; in the device, the harp is rather larger, and the letters of the motto are smaller, and not so well shaped as the true ones; in the word MAJORA, the tail of the J turns to the right hand, and looks something like L. The back is also badly imitated, the flowers round it are larger and not like the genuine ones; in the word EIGHT the first four letters are close together, and the I stands in the middle between them and the word DOLLARS. The paper is something smoother and a little whiter than the true bills, and has some small specks of isinglass; but the whole is so badly executed that they may readily be detected.

There are also counterfeit four dollar bills, dated February 17, 1776, but so badly done, that, on the least inspection, no person can be deceived by them.

Published by order of the board of treasury, July 12, 1777. JOHN GIBSON, Auditor-general.

IN CONGRESS, July 16, 1777.

Resolved, That for carrying into execution the resolve respecting col. Nicholas's corps of invalids, the following plan for raising one company, be adopted for raising the whole of the said corps.

1. That the director general of the continental hospital be desired to give directions to the physicians and surgeons, in the different departments, at a reasonable distance from Philadelphia, that before they discharge any sergeants, corporals, or private men from the hospitals as unfit for service, they consider whether such men are actually, or likely soon to be, capable of doing garrison duty, and if thought so, to mention it in the discharge, that they may not be entirely discharged from the service, but transferred from the regiment they actually belong to that of invalids. And that in case such men are at a distance from their respective regiments, the director or steward of each hospital send such men to Philadelphia in the best manner circumstances will admit.

2. That notice be sent by the board of war, to the generals commanding the armies, of the raising a corps of invalids, and they be desired to give orders to the officers commanding regiments, that in case they have any sergeants, corporals, drummers, or private men deemed incapable of doing field duty, such men should be examined by the director of the hospital, or some other physician or surgeon, and if judged fit for garrison duty, that they be not discharged, but transferred to the invalid corps, and sent to Philadelphia as soon as possible. Men having only one leg, or one arm each, if otherwise capable of doing garrison duty, are to be deemed proper recruits for this corps.

3. That the following advertisement be published in the several newspapers as soon as possible, viz.

War-Office, July 16, 1777.

The congress being desirous to make provision for such men as suffer in the military service of the United States, have directed a regiment of invalids to be immediately raised for the reception of such as have already been, or may in future be rendered by wounds or disorders incapable of doing field duty, but are yet fit for garrison service, notice is hereby given that all persons in Philadelphia, or within twenty miles round, who are under continental half pay, on account of incapacities contracted in the service, must within fifteen days repair to Philadelphia, and shew themselves to col. Nicholas in Front-street, four doors below the coffee-house, that if judged capable of duty they may be put on full pay. All other persons, who have served in the armies of the United States, within the above description, though not on half pay, may present themselves, and if judged capable, they will be immediately received. All such as are above twenty miles from Philadelphia, must apply to the nearest continental general, field officer, physician or surgeon, who are desired to forward such as they judge fit for the corps of invalids. Officers who, from wounds or disorders contracted in the service, are rendered unfit for field duty, must signify their pretensions, with certificates from continental physicians or surgeons, to the board of war. As this corps is intended not only as a provision for disabled officers and soldiers, but as a school for propagating military knowledge and discipline, no officers need apply but such as produce ample certificates of their having served with reputation, and having supported good characters both as citizens and soldiers. Officers and soldiers who have engaged during the war will be preferred.

Published by order of the board of war,

RICHARD PETERS, sec.

IN CONGRESS, May 29, 1777.

Resolved, That no persons, horses, or carriages, going to the army with provisions, and returning from thence, be pressed on any pretence whatever.

Extra from the minutes, CHARLES THOMSON, secretary.

Ordered, That this be published and continued in all the news-papers.

IN CONGRESS, June 10, 1777.

RESOLVED, I. THAT for supplying the army of the United States with provisions, one commissary general and four deputy commissaries general of purchases; and one commissary general and three deputy commissaries general of issues, be appointed by congress.

II. That each of the said commissaries and deputy commissaries be authorized to appoint for himself one

III. That the deputy commissaries general have authority to appoint as many assistant commissaries to aid under them as may from time to time be necessary, and the same to displace at pleasure, making returns thereof to the commissaries general respectively, who shall have full power to limit their numbers, to displace such as they shall think disqualified for the trust, and direct the respective deputy commissaries general to appoint others in their stead: that special care be taken by the officers empowered as aforesaid, to appoint none but persons of probity, capacity, vigilance, and attachment to the United States, and the care they are engaged in, and to make returns to the board of war, the commander in chief, and the commander of the respective department, of the assistant commissaries by them respectively appointed, the several places of abode, the time of their appointment and dismissal, and the post, place, magazine or district to which they are severally assigned, and that the deputy commissaries general of purchases and issues in the same district make similar returns to each other.

IV. That the commissary general of purchases shall superintend the deputy commissaries general of purchases, and assign to each a separate district, who shall constantly reside therein, and not make any purchase beyond the limits thereof; and every purchaser employed therein shall also have a certain district assigned him by the respective deputy commissary general, in which he shall reside, and beyond the limits of which he shall not be permitted to make any purchase, unless by special order of his superior, directing the quantity and quality of provisions to be purchased beyond his limits, and informing such purchaser of the prices given by the stationed purchaser in the district to which he may be sent.

V. That the commissary general of purchases shall direct the deputy commissaries general in their respective districts to inform themselves and assistants, as nearly as may be, of the prices for which the articles, which they are to procure, may be purchased, and that neither they nor any of the said assistants employed under their direction, exceed such prices; and if any deputy commissary general of purchases shall neglect his duty, or be guilty of any fraud or misconduct in his office, the commissary general may suspend him, and shall immediately certify the same to congress, with the reasons for such suspension, and appoint a person to act in his stead with all the powers of a deputy commissary general, until the sense of congress shall be known thereon.

VI. That the present commissary general, by himself or his deputies, deliver unto the commissary general of issues, or his deputies or assistants, all and every kind of provisions and other public stores in the commissary general's department, that now are, or, at the time when such delivery shall be made, may be, in any of the posts, places, magazines and store houses belonging to the United States, taking duplicate receipts for the same, one set whereof, together with a general return of all stores so delivered to be sent to the board of treasury, that the commissary general of issues may be charged therewith.

VII. That it shall be the duty of the commissary general of purchases, with the assistance of the deputy commissaries general and assistant commissaries of purchases, to purchase all provisions and other necessaries allowed, or which may hereafter be allowed by congress to the troops of the United States, and deliver the commissary general of issues, or his deputies or assistants, in such quantities and at such places or magazines, as the commander in chief, or the commander in the respective department shall direct.

VIII. That the commissary general of issues shall direct the respective deputy commissaries general to station one of their assistants at every fort, post, place or magazine where provisions are or may be stored.

IX. That the commissary general of purchases shall furnish each of the deputy commissaries general and assistants with a book, in which is to be entered every purchase by them respectively made; and that all the accounts may be kept in the same form, he shall cause the pages of such books to be divided into ten columns, in the first of which shall be entered the year, month and day in which any purchase is made; in the second, the names of the persons from whom; in the third, in what place; in the fourth, the species and quantity of provisions, and if live stock, the number, colour and natural marks; in the fifth, the artificial marks and number; in the sixth, the prices; in the seventh, the amount of the purchase money; in the eighth, ninth and tenth, the weight of the meat, hides and tallow of the live stock as hereafter directed: and the commissary general of issues shall furnish each of the issuing deputy commissaries general and assistants with a similar book, in which shall be entered all provisions received by them from the purchasers respectively, the first column to contain the time of receiving such provision; the second, the name of the purchaser; and in each of the other columns the entries before directed.

X. That each purchaser shall enter, in different pages of the said book, each species of provisions by him purchased, and, at the end of every month shall foot and transfer the said entries to a general account specifying the quantity, amount and average cost of each article, and shall also, in the course of the next succeeding month, send a copy of such account to the respective deputy commissary general, who shall thereupon make out a monthly return of all the provisions purchased in his district, specifying the quantity, amount and average cost of each species, as before directed, together with a copy of each purchaser's accounts, to the board of war and commissary general of purchases, within the time limited as aforesaid.

(To be continued.)

ANNAPOLIS, JULY 22, 1777.

Maryland, Charles county, July 9, 1777.

Mr. PRINTER, IN consequence of a very curious publication in your Gazette of the third instant, signed Hezekiah Magruder, which, with the impartial and discerning reader, I flatter myself has its due weight, though intended not only to disprove a matter of fact, but traduce the characters of some ladies to whom I am nearly connected; I request you will give this, the following depositions, &c. a place in your next paper.

Charles county, July 9, 1777.

Mrs. Sarah Dent, the wife of John Dent, Esq; Mrs. Anne Wilkinson, and Miss Elizabeth Tyler, made oath on the holy evangelists of Almighty God, that on the 3th of April, 1776, they, in company with Mrs. Mary

Magruder... Prince... Mrs. G... that after... let us fin... said the... little add... as her to... drank, A... of Patow... Sarah De... one, or th... these dep... ment... lief, Wheth... ral Walk... tory or n... influence... gruder's... signed the... rolled-hi... whereby... able of be... my cont... for thefe... of a fami... contelt v... share of... Hutton... not hap... leses. Tho... continen... treasur... row, ag... LAR... TH... allowed... directed... through... per cent... TH... that th... and ebe... anoun... ming of... meafur... taercof... to the... names... tice, he... their p... Perfo... date to... feren fl... SUN... of... LAND... the K... Laws, ... Who... desired... your w... To be... SAG... Salt-p... wharf... AN... three... follow... ing to... To b... m... read... day... SE... one g... A... untet... heret... who... agin... notic... SW... N... Stock... medi... givers... pend... tra...