

(XXXVth Year.)

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MARYLAND GAZETTE.

F R I D A Y, JUNE 23, 1786.

To the WHIGS of MARYLAND.

FEELING myself equally interested with you in the fate of America, I shall offer no apology for an address, containing a faithful representation of *our* public affairs. To claim your most serious attention, they need no aggravation: to palliate them, would be an insult to your fortitude. Engaged in the defence of the invaluable rights of free citizens, it is not in the power of temporary misfortunes, to shake your resolution, or alter the purpose of your souls. In struggling with difficulties, your spirits will acquire new vigour, and your heroism will flourish beneath the reign of adversity. Tyrants and their abettors may tremble in the hour of danger, and grow insolent on success, but the advocates for freedom are exalted above the reach of fortune.

Never was this country in a more critical situation than at the present moment. Charlestown, with its garrison, is at length in the possession of Sir Henry Clinton. I have no doubt, but that every effort was exerted for its preservation, which could have been expected from a brave and experienced commander, seconded by a small band of gallant soldiers; and though it is generally true, that eclat and applause are alone attendants on the triumphal car, I flatter myself, that these unfortunate men will find the rigours of captivity softened by the generous sympathy and just commendations of their countrymen, nor will the laurels of Saratoga be suffered to wither on the brow of Lincoln. It should be a maxim with Americans, that to deserve success, is more than to triumph. Let Britons be ungrateful, 'tis ours to be just.

The consequences that must necessarily flow from this event are disagreeable. It lays open an extensive country to the ravages of an army, who have refined on the horrors of war. It revives the expiring hopes of the enemy. Inconcocted with their present success, they will anticipate future victories, and march forward to meet the careles of fortune, with all the fond expectation of a bridegroom on the nuptial eve. They have already begun their career. General Kniphausen, with a force, equal to that of our illustrious chief, is now penetrating into New-York. Report says, that he has received a reinforcement of four thousand men from Sir Henry Clinton. Should this be true, our general, unless he has obtained a great addition to his army, must retreat before them, and leave the Jerseys undefended from the insults of an abandoned soldiery. Having nothing to hope for, and every thing to lose, his prudence will never permit him to risk a general action. How must this great man's humanity weep, should he be reduced to the sad necessity of abandoning these brave people in the hour of distress! They have already beheld scenes of cruelty, the details of which must even bid the bolom of the tyrant leave a sigh of remorse, and make him for a moment relent at his own infernal works! Virtue and beauty, which one must suppose would make the murderer into compassion, and wrest the dagger from the assassin's hand, have been the objects of British barbarity! Happy would it be for America, could no other instances of this nature be produced: all their operations, during this contest, have been a tissue of outrages against the feelings of mankind, and yet, astonishing to be told! retaliation has slept. We have send our towns buried in one undistinguished ruin, and our cultivated farms laid waste. The blood of our butchered soldiers, of defenceless women and children, have called aloud for revenge; yet retaliation has slept! How long, Americans, will ye be unjust to yourselves? Will you never, never learn, that tenderness to your mercies foe is high treason against your country? Bate minus will ever give indulgence the name of cowardice; the brave and virtuous alone are to be won by acts of benevolence. We are contending with Britons: to bring them to reason, we must retaliate. Though our affairs at this time wear a gloomy complexion, I feel a joyful hope arising in my mind, that an opportunity will ere long present itself, when we shall give it in our power to chastise these warlike ravagers, and make them curie the moment

in which they insulted Americans. This hope is no vain chimera of a heated imagination. Our illustrious ally, attentive to the interests of America, has destined a powerful fleet and army, to co-operate with her forces; that these are his intentions, is clearly and unequivocally evinced, by this armament's being subject to the controul and direction of American councils. This act of unlimited confidence multipliate every prejudice against our allies, which have been industriously fostered by our enemies, and impress every whig with the highest veneration for the great Louis, and the generous and gallant nation over whom he presides.

This armament, we have every reason to believe, will be on this coast in a few weeks; whether their arrival will be productive of utility, or plunge us into greater misfortunes, depends upon ourselves. If we, by an unparadonable remissness and neglect, are unprepared to second their efforts, it would have been better for us that they had never fought our shore. Should we suffer the intentions of this generous aid to be frustrated, for want of proper exertions on our part, we shall fix an indeleble stain on our national character, and tully the arms of France: our consequence in Europe will be annihilated, and America will be no longer numbered amongst the nations. This picture requires no false colouring, to render it striking. Disgrace is depicted in every feature, and its drapery is shaded with infamy. View it, my countrymen; attentively view it: it rests with you, whether it shall be real or fictitious.

The American army, in its present situation, cannot act with that vigour the nature of this service will require. To expect it, would be a degree of insanity. They have no other dependence for provisions, but the precarious supplies of the present day. Their pay, scanty a pittance as it is, five months in arrears, the sick and wounded in the hospitals, who ought to be nursed by this country with the tenderness of parental affection, are languishing for want of those necessaries their case demands; the quarter-masters are without money, and the magazines without forage; we have an artillery, but no horses to transport it. Discontents, fomented by the emissaries of our enemy, and too much encouraged by the wants of the soldiery, have spread amongst our ranks. Here, citizens, you have a true state of your army; should any person censure me for having painted their situation in too strong colours, I beg leave to assure them, that it is a sentiment of general Washington's, that more ill consequences would flow from a concealment of our distress, be it ever so great, than from its being fully known. I will not undertake to trace these evils up to their source; I will not say, that they are to be attributed to the blunders of a weak, or the designs of a wicked administration. This, however, I will venture to assert, that their authors, be they in ever so exalted stations, deserve, and I trust will feel the public resentment. But this is no time to look back, no time to criminate. It is a season for action, not deliberation; of opening new and brighter prospects, not of weeping over present distress. The state vessel is in a storm, and it behoves all hands on board to ply the sails and oars, and unite their exertions to carry her into a safe port.

The resources of this country are at least equal to the exigences of the times; there wants only a proper spirit in the people to call them forth. This spirit, I am well convinced, will discover itself at this important crisis. If I know the whigs of Maryland, no exertions in their power will be wanting. They are too sensible of the value of the prize for which they are contending, for which they have dared to bleed, to resign it on the approach of danger and difficulties. You are called upon by the commander in chief, and by congress, for an instantaneous supply of men and money. Your representatives, to whom these requisitions were directed, feel the necessity of a compliance. They will vote the required aid, but they can only vote; 'tis your duty, 'tis your interest, citizens, to stamp their laws with energy, and to carry them into immediate execution. Arguments to persuade you to such a conduct, would be needless. Your representatives will impose no burthens on

you, but what are essentially necessary to your welfare, and what they will participate. They wish no exemptions from military duty; and have set you a worthy example, by subscribing, as far as their abilities well admit, to the loan, held forth to raise the supplies of money required. To suppose that the sum wanted will not be immediately obtained by voluntary subscription, would be an affront to the whiggism of this state! When Rome was in distress, and pressed by her enemies, the ladies stripped themselves of their personal ornaments to augment the public treasury. Shall Roman matrons set an example of public spirit, which the citizens of Maryland dare not equal? Forbid it patriotism! Forbid it honour!

Shall we be so lost to our own interest, as not cheerfully to sacrifice a part of our property, to secure the whole? Shall we shrink from the dangers and fatigues of a single campaign, when by our exertions it may be closed with the firm establishment of our freedom and independence? Can we support the idea of the disgrace, that will flow from our defeating by our inactivity the attempts of our ally? Arise then, my countrymen, gird on your swords, and rush to the battle: Do you wish to be free? Then behave in such a manner as to deserve the blessing. Do you wish to enjoy tranquillity? Hew your way to it with your swords: The olive branch will only flourish in a field, drenched with the blood of your enemies.

A W H I G.

Annapolis, June 20, 1786.

W I L L I A M S B U R G, June 10.

ARTICLES OF CAPITULATION proposed by major-general LINCOLN, for the surrender of Charlestown.

Art. I. **T**HAT all acts of hostility and work will cease between the besiegers and besieged, until the articles of capitulation shall be agreed on, signed, and executed, or collectively rejected.

Art. II. The town and fortifications shall be surrendered to the commander in chief of the British forces, such as they now stand.

Art. III. The continental troops and sailors, with their baggage, shall be conducted to a place to be agreed on, where they will remain prisoners of war, until exchanged. While prisoners, they shall be supplied with good and wholesome provisions, in such quantity as is served out to the troops of his British majesty.

Art. IV. The militia now in garrison shall be permitted to return to their respective homes, and be secured in their persons and property.

Art. V. The sick and wounded shall be continued under the care of their own surgeons, and be supplied with medicines, and such necessaries as are allowed to the British hospitals.

Art. VI. The officers of the army and navy shall keep their horses, swords, pistols, and baggage, which shall not be searched, and retain their servants.

Art. VII. The garrison shall, at an hour appointed, march out with shouldered arms, drums beating, and colours flying, to a place to be agreed on, where they will pile their arms.

Art. VIII. That the French consul, his house, papers and other movable property, shall be protected and untouched, and a proper time granted to him for retiring to any place that may afterwards be agreed upon between him and the commander in chief of the British forces.

Art. IX. That the citizens shall be protected in their persons and properties.

Art. X. That a twelvemonth's time be allowed all such as do not choose to continue under the British government, to dispose of their effects real and personal in the state, without any molestation whatever, or to remove such part thereof, as they choose, as well as themselves and families; and that during that time they, or any of them, may have it at their option to reside occasionally in town or country.

Art. XI. That the same protection to their persons and properties, and the same time for the removal of their effects, be given to the subjects of France and Spain, as are required for the citizens in the preceding articles.