

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, F E B R U A R Y 22, 1781.

RICHMOND, February 10.

The following is a copy of a letter sent on board the frigate Charles-town, of Hog-Island, January 5, 1781.

... E. B. Y. unprecedently, and without orders, two boats landed from one of the troop's vessels this morning, which we intercepted as soon as our boats could reach them, as our intention is not to distress in the least; but at the same time, expect to be supplied with some stock, and fresh beef immediately, otherwise we shall be under the necessity of landing our forces and destroying the houses; and you will be ready with the beef at the water side, within one hour after the receipt of this. I am, sir, your humble servant,

THOMAS EDWARDS.

To the commanding officer or inhabitants on shore. We are told that a fleet of the enemy's ships have entered Cape Fear river; that some of them had got over the bar, and many others were laying off. They are supposed to be a reinforcement to lord Cornwallis, under the command of general Prevost. Since our last, we learn that 14 merchantmen belonging to this state and Baltimore, arrived, and have put into the ports on the eastern shore.

FISH-KILL, February 1.

The public may rely on the authenticity of the following anecdote.

In the late excursion which general Mifflin made to Morrisania, major Olinde Lawrence, being detached with a reconnoitering party, under the command of col. Grey, accidentally met with col. James De Lancey, who taking the major for one of his officers, abruptly accosted him with "D--n you, what are you doing there--don't you see the rebels just on your back." Major Lawrence, in order to decoy him, replied, "My dear colonel--pray give me your assistance--my men are in the greatest confusion, and I can't rally them." Upon which De Lancey innocently rode up, till he came within a few rods of the major; when, unfortunately, one of the major's party, seeing G. W. on his cap, rising from behind a stone fence, where they were concealed, discovered to the colonel his mistake--upon which he immediately wheeled about--put spurs to his horse--and uttering the danger of a broken neck, in the fire of his enemy, leapt down a rocky precipice--exclaiming, when he perceived his error--"D--n you Sir Lawrence--I know you."

CHATHAM, January 31.

Last week the enemy hung, at Bergen-point, one Ball--an inhabitant of Rahway, who was suspected of being a spy. A letter from New-York mentions, that there is a homeward bound fleet, upwards of two hundred sail, which it is expected will leave there this week, under convoy of the Brilliant of 33 guns, and the Clinton of 30, in which a number of his majesty's desponding subjects are to make their departure. Last Friday general Robertson, with between two and three thousand troops, came from New-York to Staten-Island. It is supposed he has it in contemplation to make an incursion into this state, as some of their dirty productions, to poison the minds of the soldiery, were found last Monday morning at this place. We

would recommend it to sir Harry to silence the clamorous hirelings of Hesse, to whom he is fifteen months in arrear, before he makes overtures to our soldiery. During the holidays, an attempt was made by some people in New-York, and some from Long-Island, to seize the person of sir Henry Clinton, and to bring him off a prisoner to us, but it unfortunately miscarried, and his head-quarters are now secured by two field pieces. Several are confined, on suspicion, in order to investigate this matter. We give it as a fact to our readers.

TRENTON, February 7.

We hear from New-York that a fleet of sixty sail, under convoy of four frigates and a tory gun ship, (the French Indian man taken by Rodney) sailed last week from that place for Europe, on board of which is shipped most of their hard cash.

Previous to the sailing of the above fleet, there was a very hot press in New-York, in which they took white and black without distinction, to the number of about five hundred persons.

They have received an account at New-York, that one of Graves's fleet, a 74, was cast away in the late violent snow storm, on Brinton's-reef, and that all on board perished.

The refugees within the British lines have been so elated with the prospect of peace, at the expense of the liberties of the United States, in consequence of some late events, that numbers of them purchased merchandise in order to set up shopkeeping in this state, and went to far as to fix upon their respective places of abode. Poor deluded wretches!

Extract of a letter from Holland to a gentleman in this state, dated Sept. 20, 1780.

"The same causes which have hindered this republic from openly connecting itself with America, and from protecting its own commerce, still continue in a great degree. She has hitherto suffered herself to be insulted, ill treated, and pillaged with impunity by the English. But the grand point with respect to America which we have gained is, that the English party have not succeeded in their endeavours to engage her in this contest in favour of your enemies; and as to her own commerce, though she has not had enterprise sufficient to protect it alone, she will have prudence enough to appear among the foremost in the fleets forming by the confederated maritime powers.

"I felicitate you on the glory which your troops and militia have gained in repulsing the British incendiaries from the village of Springfield. You will have learned, before the receipt of this letter, of the capture of the English East and West-Indian fleets by the combined fleets of France and Spain, between Cape St. Vincent and Madeira. A very important stroke in its consequences; for there were 3 ships for the East-Indies, 18 for admiral Rodney, 13 for Jamaica, and 28 for New-York and Charles-town, with troops, money, ammunition and provisions, the loss of which must derange the operations of the enemy on all sides.

"We think it unfortunate for America that Mr. Laurens has met with so many delays in executing the commission congress had given him for this country; however, the good work shall not be entirely stopped on that account. I have lately received letters of thanks from the ministers of the United States of America, both in France and Spain, in consequence of my acceptance of bills in the absence of this gentleman, and shall esteem myself always happy when I can promote the interest of so glorious a cause as that in which America is engaged."

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 13.

Thursday last came into port the prize brigantine Chance, late commanded by Alex Wiley. She was taken on her intended voyage from Lisbon to Charles-town, by the privateer brigantine Ariel, capt. Lawler. Her cargo consists of 150 pipes of wine, 90 boxes of lemons, raisins, figs, &c. &c.

Sunday morning arrived here the brigantine Virginia, captain Mitchell, in 40 days from Cadiz. By this vessel we learn, that the siege of Gibraltar is still continued with the greatest spirit; that a Spanish fleet lay in Cadiz bay at single anchor, ready to co-operate with the other forces on any emergency; and that another fleet was cruising off Gibraltar, to intercept any supplies destined for the relief of that port; that all assistance from the Moors, on the coast of Barbary, to our enemies, in the way of provisions, &c. had been denied them, and the most favourable countenance shewn to the besiegers, who, it was thought, must succeed, ere long, in their arduous undertaking.

Feb. 14. By a gentleman just arrived from Virginia, we are informed, that the Cherokees, having taken up the hatchet, were proceeding to the frontiers of Virginia and North-Carolina; that colonel Campbell, with the Washington county militia, and about 500 North-Carolina militia, had marched up to the Indian settlements, killed 30 Indians, took about 30 prisoners, and destroyed 13 of their towns, together with their corn, &c. This account was from an officer on the expedition, to the governor of Virginia, which arrived just before the gentleman came away.

Yesterday's post brought the following authentic intelligence from Rhode-Island, to one of the delegates in congress for that state, viz. that in the storm on the 2d of January, the Culloden, of 74 guns, was entirely lost, four miles west of Montack-point, and her whole crew perished, except seventeen: that two sixty-fourers rode out the gale off Gull-Island, but had lost their masts, bowsprits, and threw their guns overboard: that the London, of 90 guns, drifted from her anchors under Watch-hill, with the loss of her masts, &c. and had not been heard of the 5th instant; and that 70 fathom of her cable had been taken up and carried into Connecticut.

ANNAPOLIS, February 21.

We are informed, that the Ariel, captain John Paul Jones, is arrived at Philadelphia; that the second division of the French fleet, and a strong reinforcement for the West-Indies, sailed early in December last.

Extract of a letter from Rappahannock (Hobb's-hole) on Rappahannock river, Virginia, dated the 5th instant.

"On Saturday last, we are informed, the enemy took, in the mouth of Rappahannock, the snow Hero, capt. Anson, bound to Baltimore, and the schooner ---, capt. Allen, belonging to that port, with 99 hogheads of tobacco on board. Several British frigates are still hovering about the mouth of our river."

Extract of a letter from Richmond, dated the 10th instant.

"Yesterday advice was received here of a fleet and body of troops, amounting from 3 to 4000 men, being arrived at Cape Fear, North-Carolina. It is said

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