

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1782.

CHARLES-TOWN, (South-Carolina) July 30.

THE town of Savannah was evacuated by the British troops, on the 11th of this month; the public stores and the effects of the inhabitants who have come away, being previously removed down to the island of Tybee. On the 20th of the same month, a fleet sailed from Tybee for Jamaica, with 1800 negroes, and other property of the loyalists, under convoy of the Zeora frigate and Vulture sloop of war. Two days afterwards, another fleet, having on board about 3000 negroes, sailed for St. Augustine. On the evening of the same day, col. Brown with a part of his regiment, the militia troops of horse dismounted, some militia infantry, and about 300 Indians, the whole making together nearly the number of 1500 persons, embarked in small vessels to proceed to East-Florida, by the inland navigation.

Three boats lately laden at George-town, with rum, &c. and designed for a supply to the rebel army, were all week destroyed on their way up the Santee river, by some loyalists in that quarter.

August 1. The master of the schooner from New-Providence reports, that upwards of 40 fail of Spanish vessels which had left that place soon after its surrender, July 18 had arrived at Havana; about the same number having been taken, and nine forced back to the island, by a privateer which was cruising in its neighbourhood. The greater part of the vessels which fell into the possession of the privateer were burnt or otherwise destroyed, and their crews, together with the troops they were carrying back to the Havana, were set on shore on the small uninhabited islands called the Keys.

These captures having been made by a privateer which was supposed to belong to New-Providence, and owned in part by persons who were included in the capitulation of the island, have been regarded by the Spaniards as a breach of the articles. They have therefore apprehended and confined a number of the inhabitants, particularly those who had shares in any of the privateers which formerly belonged to New-Providence, and which have not returned thither since its reduction, as it is not precisely known what vessel has committed these depredations.

The accounts concerning the fate of the sailors and soldiers which were landed by the privateer on the Keys, are not satisfactory or clear. It is said that they were taken off by some vessels belonging to their nation, and carried to the Havana, but at what time, and whether these vessels were sent for that purpose, or went there by accident, is not mentioned.

August 6. By a vessel which arrived on Tuesday last from St. John's river, East-Florida, we hear that two prizes, laden with flour, had been sent into the port of St. Augustine; and that another having on board 100 barrels of the same article, was off the bar of that place, waiting to discharge a part of her cargo before she entered into the harbour. They were taken by two privateers which formerly belonged to New-Providence.

August 13. On Thursday last arrived off the bar, 7 fail of transports under convoy, from Augustine. They are some of the vessels that were employed to carry off a number of the inhabitants, and part of the garrison from Savannah to that place.

Same day arrived, a flag schooner from New-Providence. A gentleman who came in her informs, that the Spaniards had released from confinement, those gentlemen who had lately been taken into custody on suspicion of their having given intelligence to a privateer, which captured a number of their vessels on their return from that place to the Havana, upon giving security for their remaining on the island, until the affair shall be cleared up.

The whole number of persons, independent of the garrison of his majesty's troops, who have left Georgia in consequence of the evacuation of Savannah, is said to be nearly 7000; of that number about 5000 are negroes, who, according to some account, are at least one fourth of all the slaves in the province of Georgia. Among the 2000 whites, who have likewise come away, are almost all the wealthy inhabitants of the province, and many of the lower class of the people.

On Friday was sent in here a small prize schooner with a valuable cargo of indigo, flour, &c. This vessel sailed from Newbern, North-Carolina, on a voyage to the West-Indies, but being chased by a privateer, had gone into St. Helena Sound. A whale boat, fitted out at this place, and which went on a cruise on Monday last, found her there, and took her on Thursday, after some resistance.

BOSTON, August 22.

Yesterday another cartel arrived at Marblehead, from Plymouth, in England, with American prisoners; it is said she sailed from thence the beginning of July, and brings advice that the French, Spanish, and Dutch fleets, amounting to 45 fail of the line, had formed a junction and were cruising in the British channel, where they fell in with and captured 23 out of a fleet of 26, bound to Québec; 1800 only escaped. That the British fleet under lord Howe, being much inferior to the combined fleet, was obliged to keep snug in port.

The brig Swan, capt. Gooden, on the 20th ult. off the Isle of Pines, spoke with the ship Count de Grasse, capt. Gifford, and the brig Schuykill, capt. Matthewson, both of Philadelphia, out 17 days on a cruise, all well, but taken nothing.

August 24. The Chatham and two frigates, it is said, are now cruising in the bay, with orders from Halifax, to burn, sink, and destroy all vessels they may capture, in retaliation for the town of Lunenburg being plundered. Fishing boats are not to be excepted.

WORCESTER, August 25.

A copy of his excellency general Washington's order, for the purpose of distinguishing the veteran non-commissioned officers and privates in the army of the United States, viz.

Head-Quarters, Newburgh, August 6, 1782.

GENERAL ORDERS.

HONOURARY badges of distinction are to be conferred on the veteran non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the army, who have served more than three years with bravery, fidelity, and good conduct.

For the purpose, a narrow piece of cloth of angular form is to be fixed on the left arm on a uniform coat.

Non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who have served with equal reputation more than six years, are to be distinguished by two pieces of cloth, let on parallel to each other in a similar form.

Should any who are not entitled to those honours, have the insolence to assume the badges of them, they shall be severely punished: on the other hand it is expected those gallant men who are thus distinguished, will on all occasions be treated with particular confidence and consideration.

The general ever desirous to cherish exertion and ambition in his soldiers, as well as to foster and encourage every species of military merit, directs, that whenever any singularly meritorious action is performed, the author of it shall be permitted to wear on his facings over his left breast, the figure of a heart in purple cloth or silk, edged with narrow lace or bordering.

Not only instances of unusual gallantry, but also instances of extraordinary fidelity and essential service, in any way, shall meet with a due reward.

Before these favours can be conferred on any man, the particular fact or facts on which it is to be grounded, must be set forth to the commander in chief, accompanied with certificates from the commanding officer of the regiment and brigade to which the candidate for reward belongs, or other incontrovertible proof; and upon granting it, the name and regiment of the person, with the action so certified, is to be enrolled in the book of merit, which will be kept at the orderly office.

Men who have merited this last distinction to be suffered to pass all guards and sentinels which officers are permitted to do.

The road to glory in a patriot army and a free country is thus opened to all. This order is also to have retrospective to the earlier stages of the war, and to be considered as a permanent one.

NEW-YORK, August 28.

More than two thousand of the troops of his serene highness the prince of Hesse, are safely arrived from Bremer Lee in Germany, at Halifax, in Nova-Scotia, under convoy of the frigates Emerald 32, and Cyclops of 28 guns; it is said they were destined for New-York, but receiving intelligence of Mons. Vaudreuil's squadron (now at Boston) pervading this coast, it was judged more prudent to steer for the above harbour. This intelligence was brought by his majesty's sloop of war Albacore, captain Calcott, which left the garrison in good health. Captain Calcott departed from Halifax on the 18th instant; our German allies had a passage of about two months.

His majesty's ship Narcissus arrived here on Sunday last from Charles-town, by which we have the following advices:

Charles-town, Head-Quarters, August 7, 1782.

The inhabitants are hereby informed, that a convoy will be ordered, and every possible assistance given to convey to Augustine, such of them, who, from the expected withdrawal of the king's troops from this town, may desire to remove with their families and effects to the province of East-Florida. All persons so disposed, are therefore required to notify their intentions at the quarter-master-general's office, where they will, at the same time, deliver in a specific account of the property they mean to take with them. All persons who propose to remove from town to other parts, are also required to give three days notice of their intention.

By order of the lieutenant-general,

EDWARD SCOTT, secretary.

Extra of a letter from Charles-town, dated August 11.

"The general has announced to the public, that this garrison is to be immediately evacuated, and every preparation is making for that event. In consequence of this information, the different classes of people in this place, are meeting and deliberating on what step is best to take for the interest of themselves and connections. At a general meeting of the merchants, they came to the resolution to chuse a committee to wait on general Leslie, with a memorial, praying for permission to depute a part of their body to wait on general Greene and governor Matthews and council, to know on what terms they can remain in the country for twelve months, without becoming subjects."

"The propositions that are to be made, are in substance as follows, viz.

"Full protection for person and property.

"A privilege to recover debts in courts of law.

"No restraint in disposing of their merchandize."

"Flags to be granted to carry their produce to any British port. And to have liberty to depart this province with their effects, at the expiration of the time agreed on.

"General Leslie approves the measure, and it seems to be the general opinion, that the terms proposed will be agreed to. The committee goes into the country this day. They are instructed to have the agreement exchanged and ratified, and the public faith pledged for the strict performance."

Saturday last came into port, his majesty's sloop of war the duc de Chartres; captain Purvis, of 18 six-pounders and 125 men, and brought in with her the French ship Le Aigle, of 22 guns and 160 men, from Cape Francois, with dispatches for M. Vaudreuil, commander of the French fleet now at Boston; she was taken the 19th instant, to the southward of Cape Henry, after a smart engagement of more than an hour, in which the fleur Prement, commander of Le Aigle, and 12 others were killed; and his first and second lieutenants and 14 men badly wounded. The duc de Chartres has received some damage in her rigging and sails; but the gallant captain Purvis, with his brave crew, are well to a man, not one of them being killed, and only one slightly wounded in the action, who is since recovered.

PHILADELPHIA, August 31.

Yesterday morning a detachment of the French army passed through this city northward.

A letter from Elizabeth-town, by stage, says, "The Brunswick troops and British grenadiers are embarking at New-York, and will sail in a short time for Quebec."

Extra of a letter from a gentleman in Morris-town, New-Jersey, to his friend in this city, dated August 25, 1782.

"We have the greatest reason to believe that an evacuation of New-York will very soon take place (as preparations are now making for such an event) and that there will not be any British troops in that city on the first of November next, whether peace takes place or not; unless there should be some signal revolution in the political situation of the belligerent powers in Europe.

"I cannot without a breach of promise mention, thro' what channel I have received this intelligence but I think an evacuation of New-York is almost reduced to a certainty. The loyalists there are in the utmost anxiety for the arrival of the next packet, which they apprehend will bring certain intelligence to confirm the fears they are at present agitated by.

"It is this day reported, that the British have demolished most of their works on Staten-Island, and have only two companies there; also that they are about to evacuate Bergen-point. No British fleet has arrived at New-York."

Sept 3. Last Friday the duke de Lauzun's legion, passed through this city; on Saturday the regiment de Bourbonnois followed, as did the royal Deux Ponts on Sunday, and the regiment de Soissonnois yesterday; and we hear that the regiment de Saintonge will proceed on the same route this morning, we are told these troops are shortly to join the army commanded by his excellency general Washington.

It may perhaps be useless to repeat the encomiums which have been so often bestowed on these truly veteran corps, by the inhabitants of the extensive country through which they have passed; but we will venture to assure the public, that in no similar instance within our knowledge, have the rights of the citizens been so critically observed as by this army; not a complaint of any kind having been exhibited, or even barely mentioned, by the people in the vicinity of their camp, or in the course of their long marches.

The Boston papers received yesterday by post, inform us of the loss of Le Magnifique, of 74 guns, in Boston bay, having run on a rock and instantly filled. Her stores, &c. were saved.

The wife of a Mr. Samuel Flint, of Windham, in the state of Connecticut, was lately delivered of a son, Mr. Flint being in his 69th year. But what is further remarkable, he has 9 children, 39 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren, all now living. The wife of one of his sons, a few years since, had 4 children at a birth.

We learn from the southward, that the hostile conduct of some of the Indian tribes to the westward, had induced the governor of South-Carolina, to send out general Pickens, with a well appointed body of militia, to chastise them, and the expedition was to have taken effect the first of this month. The Indians, however, have since sued for peace, and a treaty, we hear, will shortly be held for that purpose.

One of our readers has his doubts, whether the British are serious in evacuating all the states; and fears that they are collecting all their force to a point at New-York, with a view of making one great effort against general Washington. The late recall of the French troops to head-quarters, may be ascribed to the general's foresight of such a measure.

Extra of a letter from Gosham, New-Jersey, August 28.

"This day we have reports from the lines, that a number of families, to the amount of 100 had embarked at New-York, and were going, or were gone, to settle in Canada. Mr. Cayler, formerly mayor of Albany, under the royal government, with his family, were at the head of them. It is generally believed, that total evacuation will take place in the month of October next."