

MARYLAND GAZETTE

T H U R S D A Y, OCTOBER 17, 1782.

L O N D O N, July 12.

Two challenges were laid on Wednesday to have been sent and accepted on account of some words that passed in the house of commons on Tuesday evening; but it is said a great personage's orders are issued to arrest the parties if they should attempt to meet.

The following is a state of the ships given by the different provinces and cities of France, anno. 1782.

Table listing ships and their specifications: La Ville de Paris (by the city of Paris) 104, La Languedoc (by the states of Languedoc) 80, Le St. Esprit (by the order of the holy spirit) 80, Le Zele (by the receiver general) 74, Le Citoyen (by the court bankers) 74, Le Burgogne (by the states of Burgundy) 74, Le Marseillois (the chamber of commerce) 74, These seven were in the late engagement under de Grasse. L'Union (union of the different votes) 74, Le Diligent (by the registers of the post) 74, Le Six Corps (by the six corporations in Paris) 74, L'Archevêque (state of Artois) 64, Le Flammand (states of Flanders) 60, Le Bordelais (province of Guyenne) 54, La Ferme (by the farmers general) 54, L'Utile (by ditto) 54.

Extra of a letter from Torbay, July 7.

Friday night lord Howe's Squadron came into this bay, having been obliged to put back by contrary winds. The fog was so exceeding thick that the whole fleet had a very narrow escape from being wrecked. It consisted of 22 sail of the line, three frigates, one fire ship, and three cutters from the westward. The Kaifanable, which was the leading ship was within a cable's length of the Bolt Head, with the wind right upon the shore, before she perceived it, and had the misfortune to strike, she immediately made the signal of danger, and the rest of the fleet, which were a little to windward, tacked just in time to save themselves.

July 16. An evening paper has the two following articles:

From the packet brought by lieutenant Wilson, from lord Shuldham, port-admiral of Plymouth, we learn, that though lord Howe steered a course to meet the combined fleet, it was not his intention to give them battle immediately, but to amuse them, and to keep off an engagement if possible, until he shall be reinforced by those ships, which he has received the most positive assurances will join him in a few days, and which ships are actually on their way to join him. The Suffolk, of 74 guns, sir George Home, commander, is under orders to join the fleet; and very probably has effected a junction by this time, for she sailed into Plymouth sound the 8th instant, and made no delay whatever but to take her captain on board, who went by land to Plymouth; so that there is every reason to believe, that by this time she is under the flag of lord Howe.

On the same day (8th of July) six other men of war, outward bound, passed by Plymouth, and proceeded to join lord Howe. His lordship by his frigates learned, that the enemy had only seven ships more than he had; and not thinking this a superiority that would justify him in shewing the enemy the stern of his fleet, he boldly resolved to go in search of them, and, however, keeping between them and Brest, to prevent a junction between them and the Monsieur de la Motte Picquet. The point of honour, however, will not, as it ought not, compel his lordship to accept of the enemy's challenge to fight under the disadvantage of an inferiority, while he has a moral certainty, that in a few days, that inferiority will rise to very near an equality; and Don Louis de Cordova must have more naval skill than the world gives him credit for, to be able with 22 ships to force such a seaman as lord Howe, at the head of a fleet of 26 sail, to give battle a minute before he thinks proper himself to bear down upon his enemy.

St. Lubin and Hyder Ally.

The Sartine of 800 tons, mounting 30 guns, is more elegant, and has more accommodations, than any ship belonging to France. In this vessel M. St. Lubin frequently entertains Hyder Ally, the principal French chiefs, and other Malabar princes, in state; and on those occasions the several colours of the Maratta and India nations, provided for this purpose in the city of Bourdeaux. The chevalier carried out some merchandise with him, as well to serve for a blind, as to supply immediate necessities. The bulk of his lading consists in arms and ammunition of all kinds, proper both for fortifications and the field. He is so much in the good graces of Hyder, that the French flag is often displayed by that prince over the walls of his principal fortresses. The masters of the ships under the direction of St. Lubin have orders to pay implicit obedience to all his commands. They are perfectly unacquainted with his plans and purposes. In the mean time, they are impatient of their inactivity, which disappoints their views of private trade. It is said, that St. Lubin, on some public occasions, bears marks of high distinction, even a red riband.

O S T O N, September 23.

Between the hours of 10 and 11 o'clock last Friday night, a fire broke out in a house occupied by Mr. Chaffey, at the north part of this town, which entirely

consumed the same; but through the activity of the inhabitants, which is most brilliantly conspicuous on all such occasions, the fury of the flames was allayed, and no farther damage ensued.

To much praise cannot be bestowed on the French officers who, on this occasion, were brought with them three engines from on board their ships in this harbour, and above 200 seamen.

Extra of a letter from his excellency the chevalier de la Lucerne, to his excellency the marquis de Vauvarens, dated Philadelphia, September 5, 1782.

A proposition for replacing the Magnifique by the America, having been made by the delegates of the northern states it was warmly embraced by congress; and the resolution which the honour to address to you, passed with the greatest unanimity. Every thing that has been said or written to me upon the occasion, proves, my dear marquis, in the clearest manner, that this token of acknowledgment and friendship comes warm from the heart.

N E W - H A V E N, September 26.

Recent reports from Long-Island are, that the post at Lloyd's neck was soon to be evacuated. And that a large fleet of transports, under convoy, sailed a few days ago from New-York, bound either to Halifax or Penobscot.

C H A T H A M, October 1.

Generals Heath and Knox, on the part of the United States, and general Campbell and Mr. Elliot on the part of the British, met last Thursday at Taupan, as commissioners for liquidating the long standing accounts between the two parties, which the British, by artifice and chicanery, knowing there was a considerable balance due us, have hitherto sedulously evaded.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, October 5.

Extra of a letter from major general Greene, dated Ashley Hill, South-Carolina, August 13, 1782.

The enclosed copy of a letter from lieutenant-general Leslie contains an extraordinary requisition for a supply of provision, which was refused. I cannot but consider it as an evidence of the intention of the enemy to seduce and lull the people of this country, whilst they operate with vigour against its allies, and until they can seize a more favourable occasion of gaining possession of the country. They were too successful in their attempt to collect rice on Santee, having carried off near 600 barrels, and without any loss. A second detachment is now out, and endeavouring to ravage the banks of the Combahee river. General Gilt with the light troops, is ordered to oppose them, and I hope will in some measure render their attempt unsuccessful.

(C O P Y.)

Head-Quarters, August 13, 1782.

S I R,

THE measure which I lately adopted, of sending a force to collect provisions on the Lower Santee, for the use of this garrison, was a necessary consequence of the conduct your party had thought proper to observe, in the prohibitions which prevented our receiving supplies of that kind from the country.

From the respect I bear to the sentiments which appear to govern the present conduct of Great-Britain towards America, I should have given a willing preference to any means, less detrimental to the country, by which this necessary purpose might have been attained; I am equally desirous to forbear the further prosecution of these measures; and am ready to enter with you into any composition to that effect, which may, I think, be established on terms to the mutual advantage of either party, affording to us the supply to our future necessities, and to you security from further depredation, and a voluntary compensation for what the force of arms has already given us in possession; the success which has attended this enterprise, must convince you, that principles of benevolence and humanity are the true motives of a conduct, the moderation of which must appear striking to you.

I hope these considerations will induce you to accept a proposal to evidently advantageous to the interests of your own party; and that you will in consequence, order rice and other provisions to be sent into town, in quantities proportioned to our demand. This will be considerable, from the necessity of supplying the King's subjects who may think proper to remove from hence to the province of East Florida.

If, notwithstanding these offers, you think proper to adhere to your former line of conduct, the necessity which constrains will justify the measures which I shall be forced to take. I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient, and humble servant,

ALEXANDER LESLIE.

To major-general Greene, &c. &c. Head-Quarters, South-Carolina, Ashley Hill, August 29, 1782.

S I R,

I HAVE the honour to transmit your excellency the report of brigadier-general Gilt, relative to the operations of the troops under his command. The object of his detachment was mentioned in my dispatch of yesterday; and I am happy to find he was so successful as to render ineffectual the attempt of the enemy to collect provision.

It is very unfortunate that we have to lament the loss of so valuable and distinguished an officer as lieutenant-colonel Laurens, who was killed in the skirmish on the

17th instant: his conduct, both as a citizen and as an officer, will for ever secure him the grateful remembrance of his countrymen. I am, &c.

N. GREENE.

His excellency J. Hanfon, Esq.

Light Camp, Chehaw Neck, August 17, 1782.

Dear General,

THE enemy's fleet arrived and took possession of Combahee ferry, on the morning of the 25th instant, and the troops under my command took post on the north side of the river in the evening of the same day. No authentic intelligence could be obtained of the force or movements of their troops, till early the next morning, when I received information that they had landed about 300 men at Mr. Middleton's farm, on the opposite side of the river, and that they had divided and cantoned them at two different plantations.

A number of militia having joined a former detachment of light troops on that side, I thought it a favourable opportunity to strike at one of their parties, and accordingly detached major Call with the 30 regiment of dragoons, with orders to cross at the Salt Ketches, join the infantry and attack them at day-break the next morning. Enclosed is his report on that subject, to which I beg leave to refer you. Previous to my orders to major Call, I had directed a work to be thrown up, to annoy their shipping on their return, at Chehaw Neck, about 12 miles from the ferry; and lieutenant-nant-colonel Laurens arrived in the intermediate time and solicited the direction and command at that post: a detachment of 50 infantry, with some matrosses and a howitz, were ordered down to him in the evening. The enemy disappointed principally in the object of their expedition, re-embarked their troops about two o'clock this morning, and dropped silently down the river with the tide, undiscovered by our patrols till four o'clock, when the troops were put in motion to prevent their landing and support colonel Laurens, but before my arrival they effected a landing and brought him to action in the field, in which that brave and gallant officer fell much regretted and lamented. The enemy took possession of the howitz and I arrived with the cavalry just in time to cover the retreat of the infantry, who formed immediately within a quarter of a mile of the field of action. Finding the position of the enemy very unfavourable to the operations of cavalry, and the infantry much fatigued, I thought it improper to press them to action, and they proceeded to their boats, embarked and failed immediately.

Captain Gun, with a party, pressed upon their rear, and retook the artillery horses.

Enclosed is a list of the killed and wounded. I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

M. GIST, brigadier-general.

The honourable major general Greene.

(C O P Y.)

Dear Sir,

I AM just honoured with your's of last evening's date, and have the mortification to inform you the design was frustrated by the enemy's decamping last evening before dawn. I arrived at Mr. Bake's plantation, within one mile of Mr. Middleton's, this morning at two o'clock, where I was informed of their movement. I have the honour to be, dear Sir, your most obedient servant,

RICHARD CALL.

August 27, 1782, one o'clock.

General Gilt.

A list of the killed and wounded the 27th of August, 1782.

One lieutenant-colonel and one corporal killed, two captains, one lieutenant, two sergeants, one corporal, and thirteen privates wounded.

Names of the officers killed and wounded.

Lieutenant-colonel Laurens, killed. Captain Smith, of artillery, captain Fields, of the militia, and lieutenant Smith, of the Virginia troops, wounded.

Three privates missing.

W. Z. BEALE, M. B.

Published by order of congress,

CHARLES THOMSON, fec.

On Wednesday evening last, departed this life, after a short illness, in the 55th year of his age, Charles Lee, Esq; major-general in the Polish service, and formerly a major general in the service of the United States. His remains were conducted to Philadelphia, on Monday, with military honours, from the tavern attended by a large concourse of gentlemen of distinction, and deposited in Christ church yard.

OB. A report was very current yesterday, that the combined fleet had fallen in with the homeward bound Jamaica fleet, and captured some of the men of war and many of the merchantmen. The Ville de Paris is said to be among the captured vessels. Before our next we shall probably know whether this important news be true.

A N N A P O L I S, October 17.

The following gentlemen are elected members of the house of delegates in the ensuing general assembly, viz.

For St. Mary's county, Uriah Forrest, Thomas Bond, Philip Key, and Athanasius Ford, Esquires. For Anne-Arundel county, Brice T. B. Worthington, Nicholas Worthington, John Hall, and William Brogden, Esquires.