

VIII. *As it is settled.* That if this act shall be confirmed by the general assembly, after the next election of delegates, in the first session after such new election, as the constitution and form of government directs, that in such case this act, and the alteration of the said constitution contained therein shall be considered as a part, and shall constitute and be valid as a part, of the said constitution and form of government, to all intents and purposes, any thing therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

#### TO THE VOTERS OF PRINCE-GEORGE'S COUNTY.

I AM solicited by my friends to offer myself as a candidate at your next election, and at the particular request of some of the leading characters on Patowmack I now take my pen to address you on that head. It has been said in our county that I am not a decided character, you know my heart too well for me to dwell on that subject—true, I never was of any party in my life; I trust I never shall. I admit our constitution as one of the best in the world, and I hope I ever shall be watchful of the rights and liberties of our citizens—If you think me a character worthy of your confidence I shall humbly thank you for your votes—Should I be elected I pledge my honour honestly shall be my motto, sincerity my creed. Give me leave to subscribe myself

Your humble servant,

R. A. CONTEE.

Bladensburg, December 5, 1798.

#### S A L E M, April 9.

Captain Herbert Woodberry, from St. Andro, informs, that the capture of captain Oliver, of Beverly, under the guns of the castle of that place, excited strong murmurs among the inhabitants, and a new officer immediately succeeded to the command of the fort, who notified the French privateers in the harbour, that if they attempted to put out after an American vessel hove in sight, he would sink them.—Two days after, four American vessels came in and anchored, to avoid a cruiser that was off. In the evening one of the privateers took the turn of the tide, and without hoisting sail drifted along down and came across the bows of one of the Americans, intending to cut her out. The American had a few guns, which he had got well filled to salute her. The Spaniards had observed the manœuvres of the privateer from the fort, and once more forwarned her, that if she did not come to anchor immediately, they would sink her; she was obliged to obey, and the Americans remained unmolested. — in lat. 44, long. 15, captain W. was boarded by an English cutter, which had retaken a ship from City Point, Virginia, bound to England (name forgotten)—she had been captured by a new French 20 gun ship, and the crew all taken out. The Englishman had taken out the French crew, and sent the vessel to Jersey or Guernsey. A few days after, the English cutter had spoke another ship from City Point bound to England.—March 11, lat. 48, long. 36, captain W. spoke brig Franklin, Walker, of Boston, 28 days from the Havana, bound to London.

#### B O S T O N, April 9. TRUXTON FOR EVER.

On Sunday night arrived sloop Phenix, captain Doane, in 17 days from Antigua. Two days before he sailed, a vessel in 24 hours from St. Kitt's, arrived, the captain of which informed him, that he there saw a French privateer schooner of 18 guns, and 150 men, which was sent in by commodore Truxton. That officer had sailed from St. Kitt's on the 10th of March, in the Constellation, in company with the Insurgents. They separated as they approached Guadalupe; and when they came in full sight of that island, (agreeably to a plan concerted) they both appeared to bear up for port, the one under French colours, the other under American. They soon met and effected a very furious combat. The French on shore, deceived by these appearances, hastened the sailing of the above-mentioned privateer to aid their countrymen. She came out accordingly, and did not discover the deception till too late. 18 shot were fired at her, however, before she was brought to. Captain Doane, (our informant) speaks with confidence of the correctness of the intelligence; says he had a long conversation with the captain from St. Kitt's, as had others at Antigua, where the news was credited.

The Constellation frigate was lying at Antigua, in order to have her fore mast fitted. She had not captured any thing.

The general Greene frigate, equipping at Newport, is nearly ready for sea.

The frigate building in this town, it is said, will be launched about the middle of May.

#### N E W - Y O R K, April 16.

*Extract of a letter from Mr. Jedidah Kelley, supercargo of the armed ship General Lincoln, to his owners in Nantucket, dated*

Havana, March 10, '99.

"We arrived here yesterday from Antigua, which place we left in company with the ship Sterling, which mounted more guns than the General Lincoln. We saw several privateers which we supposed were French; the ship Sterling universally gave chase to them, but they were soon out of sight, sailing much faster than the Sterling—after which the Lincoln was boarded and examined by two English cruisers, one a sloop from Jamaica, the other a brig of 16 guns, from New Providence—the latter after permitting the Lincoln to pass, gave chase to the Sterling—she has not yet arrived."

"There is some expectation of an attack on this place by the English.—Report says (and not without belief,) that there is an expedition fitting out in England of 15 ships of the line, and 3000 troops, destined for this place—the certainty now is, three ships of the line and seven frigates cruising off the harbour, supposed to prevent obtaining any supplies or reinforcement of troops.

"Several American vessels have been taken to windward of this place.—A Danish sloop that arrived here yesterday had been captured by a French privateer, detained 8 days and liberated—the captain of which says, the privateer had on board a number of thousand dollars taken from Americans bound to and from this place.—Report says, that a French corvette has captured an American sloop of war—it is not believed, as there has been no such vessel heard of cruising in the West-Indies of late. Previous to our leaving Antigua there was one captured by a British ship to windward of that island, and brought in there."

"After the conclusion of the letter, he observes—'Since writing the within, the news is confirmed respecting the American ship being captured, of 22 guns. She was boarded ten leagues from this port, by two French privateers, and 65 men killed out of 70'"

#### P H I L A D E L P H I A, April 15.

##### THE LATEST FROM NORTHAMPTON.

By a gentleman who left Bethlehem, yesterday morning, we are informed, that the troops were encamped at Allentown, in good health and spirits—that 12 more of the insurgents had been apprehended in different quarters of the country, who, together with those previously taken, were securely guarded in the camp. The army was this day to advance towards Bethlehem, and had a prospect of being able to return to the city about the 19th instant.

At Miller's-town the army was joined by a troop of horse from Lancaster, another from Chester, and one from Montgomery—These had afforded considerable relief to the other troops of cavalry, which had before that been much harassed with frequent excursions after the insurgents, and without much success lately, as they had become alarmed, and the most active of them had fled from their homes. Several parties had been in pursuit of a person of the name of Marks, of Quaker-town, a leading character among them, who had, however, effected his escape.

A review of the troops had taken place, which had given great satisfaction—the body of horse amounting to between four and five hundred, with artillery proportionable. A company of volunteer infantry from Reading, had joined the army.

*The following interesting letter from a young gentleman of this city, belonging to the frigate United States, commodore Barry, we are indebted to the politeness of an obliging correspondent.*

St. Pierre, Martinique,

Ship Cicero, March 9, '99.

"I have been here in this ship about 10 days, as prize-master. She belongs to Liverpool, was captured by the French privateer schooner Democrat, and recaptured by the United States frigate, and sent in here. Her cargo consists principally of live stock, such as oxen, jack-asses, horses, &c. and is valued at about 30,000 dollars, of which I suppose, one eighth will fall to us. She is a fine ship of 450 tons, mounts 20 nine pounders, and carries 50 men, or rather 35 men and 15 boys. The privateer mounts 12 nine pounders and had 100 men. They fought two hours and an half and after the French had boarded her fought on the deck three quarters. Out of 50 hands, the captain and three men were killed, and 26 wounded.—Could I but give you a description of the scene this ship presented when we first took possession of her, it would make your heart shudder. Never were men more inhumanly mangled, and much of it done too after they had given up. A little boy who was a favourite of the captain, was ordered by the Frenchmen to go aloft and hand down the colours—he cried, and said he could not, which was the fact. A Frenchman immediately up with his cutlass and cut his arm almost off, and otherwise wounded him in several places. The Englishmen, there can be no doubt, fought like men: every thing on board proves it. The French had been in possession of her about 36 hours before we recaptured her, during which time not one of the poor fellows who had been wounded had been dressed, nor a single bucket of water thrown on the deck. They were in a perfect gore of blood; inasmuch, that when the ship would roll with the heave of the sea, the blood in the cabin run from side to side in a perfect current.

"The capture of this ship, ought to be a serious lesson to our merchants, how they fit out their vessels. They put on board ten or a dozen guns with twice the number of men, at the utmost, and then think she is able to cope with any thing she may possibly meet with. This is a great mistake. It is incredible how these Frenchmen fight when driven to desperation.—Having nothing to lose and every thing to gain, whenever they see any thing that looks like plunder, nothing will deter them from attempting the most daring enterprise. The Democrat had taken two or three other ships of equal force and carried them into Guadalupe.—We found 30 Frenchmen on board the ship, who were put on board the frigate."

Yesterday I was informed of WAR, having been declared against France, by Guadalupe, St. Louis and St. Martin.—This news came here in a letter from St. Thomas. It is the case, there can be no doubt, but their respective governments have their orders from France, as they would not dare to go far without

such orders—of course the declaration of war will be general.

"Some time since we sent our boat into Guadalupe, as a flag of truce, to exchange prisoners—there were no Americans there, but commodore Barry thought it better to leave the Frenchmen and take a receipt for them, than to keep them on board long enough to eat more than they were worth. Desforaux's secretary came on board—assured the commodore, that Americans were not made prisoners—that the trade was open to them, and advised the returning of the Insurgents, as he feared very much, it might be the cause of a war between the two nations, than which nothing could be more disagreeable to him!

"Since I have been here, I have had the satisfaction of seeing the celebrated Bartholomew. He resides here, and is a very fine looking man."

*Extract of a letter from a gentleman in the service of the United States, for running the boundary line with the king of Spain to the editors, dated New Orleans, February 10, 1799.*

"We are now about 60 miles in a south course from the boundary line—and I expect to see out for the line in four or five days. Our business proceeds very slowly, having been from the 1st of May to the 31st December, 1798, in going little better than one hundred miles; this is slow marching for our party, which contains between 60 and 70 persons, including officers, &c."

April 16.

This morning came up to the city, and fired a salute, the ship Delaware, captain Swords, in 135 days from Canton.

Also arrived, the armed schooner Nancy, captain Moody, in 11 days from the Hav. na.

Captain Moody informs, that before he sailed, accounts were received at Havana, that the ship Ocean, from New-York, for Vera Cruz, and owned in this city, had been captured by 4 French privateers off Key Bianca. The Ocean fought for several hours, but was at length obliged to strike. The Frenchmen then boarded her, and most inhumanly butchered the whole crew except 5, who secreted themselves for several days after their capture in the hold.

The ship President, Pinckham, of New Bedford, putting into Lima, was very hospitably treated by the viceroy, and furnished with protecting certificates.

From St. Pierre, Martinique, March 7.

"You no doubt have heard of Truxton's success and glory in the capture of the Insurgent; she was the last French frigate left out here; the rest are all gone to France. We have no other hope but to capture the privateers of which there are still numbers out of Guadalupe—and to whom our ship is as well known as she is to you, and is as much dreaded as they are by our merchantmen."

#### B A L T I M O R E, April 18.

A London paper of the 21 of March, 1798: "A draft of forty horses from all the cavalry regiments now in Great Britain is immediately to be made for the service in Portugal. They are to embark by the 9th instant, if the transports are ready for them."

*Extract of a letter from London, dated 30th January last.* "While we are upon the subject of blockade, it may be material that you are informed of a recent decision in doctors' court: 'The Columbia, captain Weeks, bound from New-York to Amsterdam, ship and cargo the property of Vos and Graves, and George Barnwell, of the former city.' The judge condemned both ship and cargo for a breach of the blockade of the Texel, committed by the captain in conjunction with the consignees in Hamburg; the ship having first gone to Cruzhaven for orders, and afterwards proceeded to Amster-dam, notwithstanding the knowledge of its blockade, by both consignees and master, and as the one was the uncoubered agent for the cargo and the other of the ship, their acts were binding on the owners, and had clearly forfeited both ship and cargo. It was not contended, that any blame attached on the owners at New-York, the ship having sailed prior to the knowledge of the blockade having reached that port."

#### Regimental Orders.

THE commanding officer of the 22d regiment hereby requests, that all persons belonging to his regiment between the ages of twenty one and thirty years, assemble at Warfield's Old Field, near Gambrell's tavern, on Monday the sixth day of May next, at 10 o'clock, for the purpose of offering themselves as volunteers to compose a select company to the regiment. The commanding officer hopes, for the honour of the regiment, that a sufficient number will turn out as volunteers on the day of meeting, which will prevent the disagreeable necessity of going into a draught. The commanding officers of companies are desired to give particular notice to their men, in writing them to attend on the above day, so no disobedience or inattention to orders will be overlooked.

JOHN GASSAWAY, Lieut. Col. 22d Regiment.

April 23, 1799.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the commission of the tax for Anne Arundel county will meet at the city of Annapolis, on the second Tuesday of May next, and will sit from day to day for twenty days thereafter, to hear appeals and make transfers of property in said county.

By order,  
NICH. HARWOOD, Clk. com. tax A. A. Co.  
April 18, 1799.