

the Tigre's guard boats; these troops not expecting to find a naval force of any description in Syria, took up their ground close to the water side, and were consequently exposed to the fire of grape shot from the boats, which put them to the rout the instant it opened upon them, and obliged them to retire precipitately up the side of the Mount. The main body of the army finding the road between the sea and Mount Carmel thus exposed, came in by that of Nazareth, and invested the town of Acre to the east, but not without being much harassed by the Samaritan Arabs, who are even more inimical to the French than the Egyptians, and better armed.

As the enemy returned our fire by muskets only, it was evident they had not brought cannon with them, which were therefore to be expected by sea, and measures were taken accordingly for intercepting them; the Thebus was already detached off Jaffa (Joppa.)

The enemy's flotilla, which came in from sea, fell in with and captured the Torride, and was coming round Mount Carmel, when it was discovered from the Tigre, consisting of a corvette, and nine sail of gun vessels; on seeing us they haled off.

The alacrity of the ship's company in making sail after them was highly praiseworthy; our guns soon reached them, and seven, as per enclosed list, struck; the corvette, containing Buonaparte's private property, and two small vessels escaped, since it became an object to secure the prizes without chasing further; their cargoes, consisting of the battering train of artillery, ammunition, platforms, &c. destined for the siege of Acre, being much wanted for its defence. The prizes were accordingly anchored off the town, manned from the ships, and immediately employed in harassing the enemy's posts, impeding his approaches, and covering the ship's boats sent further in shore to cut off his supplies of provisions conveyed coastwise.

They have been constantly occupied in these services for these five days and nights past; and such has been the zeal of their crews, that they request not to be relieved, after many hours excessive labour at their guns and oars.

I am sorry to say that we have met with some loss, as per enclosed list*, which, however, is balanced by greater on the part of the enemy. By the encouragement given to the Turkish troops from our example, and by the time that is gained for the arrival of a sufficient force to render Buonaparte's whole project abortive. I have had reason to be perfectly satisfied with the gallantry and perseverance of lieutenants Busby, Inglesfield, Knight, Stokes, and lieutenant Burton, of the marines, and of the petty officers and men under their orders.

I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed)

W. SIDNEY SMITH.

* This list exhibits a loss of four midshipmen and eight seamen, killed; and one midshipman and twenty-six seamen wounded.

Total loss of the French—seven gun-boats, thirty-four guns, and two hundred and thirty eight men.

These gun boats were loaded, besides their own complement, with battering cannon, ammunition, and every kind of siege equipage, for Buonaparte's army before Acre.

BALTIMORE, August 31.
From the New-York Gazette.

MR. LANG,

As the real cause of the resignation of that truly valuable and gallant officer, captain Truxton, is generally misunderstood, I send you the annexed copy of a letter from that gentleman, enclosing a candid statement of his case from himself.

ONE OF YOUR READERS.

New York, August 27th, 1799.

Copy of a letter from captain Truxton to a gentleman in New-York, enclosing one from him, to a gentleman in Norfolk.

Perth-Amboy, 24th August, 1799.

My Dear Sir,

I WAS so busily employed on board the Constellation, arranging matters for sea, when your letter came to hand, that I could not then find time to answer; and since I landed here, last from Sandy-Hook, have had but few moments in which I have found myself disengaged in matters that materially concern me.

On the subject of my resignation, as it was unexpected, I have received a volume of letters, making inquiry as to the cause—To answer them all at full length, would be constant employment for a week; therefore, I enclose you a copy of one answer, written to a friend of mine at Norfolk, which I expect will justify my conduct to you and him.

I do not think I shall visit New-York until I return from a short tour I contemplate making in the country, merely for the sake of exercise, when I shall be happy to see you. In the mean-time let me hear from you—and believe me always yours,

With real friendship and esteem,
THOMAS TRUXTON.

(C O P Y)

PERTH-AMBOY, New-Jersey, August 19, 1799.

DEAR SIR,

I have received your letter by captain Barton, to whom I delivered up the command of the Constellation in the road of Sandy-Hook, last evening. As you have requested of me, a statement of the cause of my resignation, as far as I could consistently give it, I will readily comply with your desire, for I can, consistently, relate the whole cause, and every circumstance of it, there being nothing in the dark; and I am not ashamed of any part of my conduct—No, Sir, I put all my enemies at defiance.

In the year 1794, an act of congress was passed for building six frigates, for a particular purpose, which act set forth; that, in case of a peace taking place between the United States and the regency of Algiers, all further proceedings should cease under that act. In consequence of this law, six captains were appointed, and the operations commenced for building the ships, under the superintendance of a captain to each frigate; but some time after the work had progressed considerably, the peace, restricting the further proceeding of building, took place, and the whole business was stopped agreeable to law: but, another act, after a great struggle in the house of representatives, was soon past; empowering the president to continue the building of three frigates, and pay, and rations, were provided for the captains only; and those three (Barry, Nicholson, Truxton), were commissioned, and their commissions numbered, 1. 2. 3. in the above order, and, registered accordingly by directions of president Washington. The pay and subsistence of the other three, (as they had become deranged officers) then ceased, until the affairs of the nation called for an augmentation of the naval armament, in 1798; when the president nominated them a second time to the senate, who gave advice and consent to their appointment; consequently their commissions could only bear legal date, in my opinion, from that time, there being no permanent naval establishment—and their first appointment having died a natural death, with the law that gave birth to them.

It may again be said, as it has been argued, that the suspension of the functions of an officer is no deprivation of his office; or that shaking down the apples, is not cutting down the tree. This is all true, and will hold good where the law is alive to continue the office; but, whenever a law, by which an office is created, dies, all appointments (not continued by another law) under it, must die also: for a chief magistrate, cannot, by our constitution, continue an office, beyond the life or existence of the law; and the derangements in our army, and subsequent appointments of old officers therein, give abundant proof of this fact; and in the case of Talbot, the very case in question! you see that the president would not risk the employment of him, on board a ship of war in the navy, until he nominated him a second time to the senate, and their advice and consent to his appointment.

Thus, Sir, you have, agreeable to your request, the whole story, told with candour and in as concise a manner as possible. And now I leave you to judge, whether I could as an officer, without despoiling myself, have done otherwise than resign; and I also leave you to judge of my feelings, after five years faithful service (of the best part of my life) attending the building of a ship of war, near two hundred miles from my family, and being constantly employed on board her on active scenes at sea, since she was fitted and manned—forsaking domestic ease and happiness—incurring disadvantages in private pursuits, and losses of many thousands of pounds, far beyond the prize money I have acquired, and the emoluments received from the service, which I am ready to show if necessary, and to prove: but this is not all, I am finally left, to commence a new employment, and to set aside all the arrangements I had made for spending my life, in a service I was devoted to.

But, Sir, it is much better for me to be thus chagrined and deranged, in prospects I had in view, and to suffer a multitude of disadvantages, other than I have enumerated, than one tittle of my honour should be tinged, by submitting with tameness and pusillanimity to that injustice which I feel—injustice, which every palpitation of my wounded soul tells me, is incomprehensible—but, Sir, I swear, by that long friendship that has subsisted between us, that I shall for ever feel, as a true American ought to feel; and the last drop of my blood I will readily spill, at any time, by sea or land, for the preservation of the honour and interest of my grateful country, for such I acknowledge to have found it to me, in a variety of instances—but one exception has separated me from its service.

It would, at this time, perhaps, be improper for me to communicate to you, any opinions of the officers of the government that have come to my knowledge, on the subject in question. I shall, therefore, only say, that in a letter from the secretary of the navy to me, dated the 15th June last, he says "my register stands, Barry—Truxton—Talbot—captain Nicholson, on employment on shore, and is satisfied." This gentleman (the sec'y.) has behaved throughout the whole business, with the feelings of a true soldier, on the very delicate subject before us, and it is due to him, that I acknowledge it.

I am, with sentiments of regard, your friend and very humble servant,

(Signed)
THOMAS TRUXTON.

LOST,

OUT of the subscriber's kitchen, between the 12th of April and 16th of August last, a bell-metal SKILLET, which holds between four and five quarts. Whoever finds the same, and will bring it home, shall be handsomely rewarded, by

ELEANOR DAVIDSON.

Annapolis, September 3, 1799.

NOTICE.

THE subscriber intends to apply to the general assembly of Maryland, at their next session, for an act of insolvency.

JAMES BROWN.

September 3, 1799.

By virtue of two writs of *ferri facias*, to me directed from the general court, will be offered for SALE, on the premises, on the 26th instant, for READY MONEY,

THE life estate of MATTHEW BEARD in a tract or parcel of land, known by the name of BEARD'S HABITATION, containing four or five hundred acres; the land is good, and has some good buildings on it; the above property is taken as the property of Matthew Beard and sold to satisfy debts due David Williamson from Matthew and John Beard.

JOHN WELCH, Sheriff of Anne-Arundel county.

September 4, 1799.

SALE of BOOKS.

On Monday the 16th instant, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, will be EXPOSED to PUBLIC SALE at my house in this city,

A VALUABLE collection of law and miscellaneous books, a catalogue of which may be seen at the bar of my tavern.

JAMES WHARFE.

Annapolis, September 5, 1799.

By virtue of an order from the orphans court of Anne Arundel county will be SOLD, at the late dwelling place of ISAAC PARKER, in South River Neck, on the 26th instant,

ALL the stock, consisting of horses and cattle, besides a variety of household furniture. The sale to commence at 11 o'clock, and for ready CASH.

PRISCILLA PARKER, Administratrix.

September 4, 1799.

ALL persons having claims against the estate of JOSHUA HARRIS, late of the city of Annapolis, deceased, are requested to exhibit the same, legally attested, for payment, and all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment, to

LUCY HARRIS, Administratrix.

Annapolis, September 2, 1799.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in Anne-Arundel county, near Queen-Anne, on Sunday the 17th instant, two negro men, to wit: a mulatto man named BOB, aged about 38 years, uncommonly large mouth and lips, chews tobacco rather to excess, and thereby flavors much.

BASH, a negro, about 36 years old, straight made, a black, who has relations in Montgomery county, on Hallings river, where Thomas Landale, of said county, lately lived. If Bash is in said county taken, and secured in gaol, shall have a REWARD of TWENTY DOLLARS, on information thereof.

If both Bob and Bash are brought home, a reward of FORTY DOLLARS will be given, with all reasonable charges, including what the law allows, will be freely paid by

JAMES BELT, Friend's Choice,

Anne-Arundel county, near Queen-Anne.
August 28, 1799.

Five Dollars Reward.

RAN away from the subscriber, without any provocation, on the 31st of August, 1799, an apprentice lad named VACHEL JOHNSON, a shoemaker by trade, about 20 years of age, 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, has a downy tullen look when he is at school, has sandy or reddish hair, tied behind; had on a new black castor hat, a long striped nankeen coat, a spotted Marcellis under jacket, nankeen trousers, and took with him nankeen breeches and white stockings, and other clothing; he has since been seen in Baltimore.

All masters of vessels and others are forewarned harbouring or carrying off the ungrateful fellow at their peril. The above reward will be paid for securing him in any gaol, so that I get him again, by

SETH SWETSER.

Annapolis, September 4, 1799.

COMMITTED to my custody as runaway, two negro men, one by the name of STEPHEN JOHNSON, committed on the 17th of August, who says that he is free born, he is about 19 or 20 years of age, about 5 feet 4 inches high, and chunky built, has a scar on his upper lip and a great many scars on his back, occasioned by the whip; his clothing is a osnabrig shirt and trousers, and an old woollen cap. The other committed on the 26th of August, by the name of WILL NORRIS, who says that he was set free by William Darnall, of St. Mary's county, he is about 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, and stout made, has a scar on his right hand; his clothing is a new wool hat, striped swan-down jacket, osnabrig shirt and trousers, old shoes, with nails in the soles. Their masters are desired to take them away in two months from their several dates; or they will be sold for their prison fees and other expenses, according to law.

JOHN WELCH, Sheriff of Anne-Arundel county.

September 2, 1799.

NOTICE.

MRS. NIXON, from the State of Delaware, has taken the house lately occupied by Mr. JAMES P. MAXWELL, in this city, and opened a boarding house for the accommodation of collegians, and others, by the year, month, week, or day. From her experience in the business she flatters herself that she can afford general satisfaction. Those parents who think to place their children under her care, may rely on every attention being paid to the education, conduct, and morals of the young gentlemen.

Annapolis, September 5, 1799.