

to a very large amount. They had passed off about 10,000 dollars before they were detected, and about 60,000 dollars more were found in their possession, when taken up. This discovery was made by the house of Forbes and Co. who had taken one of these bills.

PHILADELPHIA, May 4.

Extract of a letter dated

CORK, 2d mo. 27th, 1801.

"This city, the night before last, was alarmed with an apprehension, that a mob was forming in order to rise, in consequence of their suffering state, for want of bread; about eleven o'clock many guards of soldiers, both foot and horse, were passing under my window, marching in different directions, in order to put a stop to this awful scene which, however, took place next morning; and awful indeed it was to me, to behold the street darkened with poor miserable looking creatures, marching through the town; their sign as they marched, was a very small poor looking loaf of bread, fixed on the end of a wooden staff, and just above it a small piece of barley bread, dressed in black, in token of their distress; they did not appear to have any weapons, not even clubs, but thus marched down to the house of the mayor of the city. An officer of the military rushed on just before them, and desired the mayor to go out and speak comfortably to them, in order to prevent mischief, which he did, and promised them some steps should be taken for their relief, when they quietly returned to their homes; but relief not coming according to their expectations, the street is again darkened with a mob, with the token, a reduce piece of bread on the staff. The consequence is dreaded, but not yet known, so I stop awhile.

"Three o'clock in the afternoon. Several guards of soldiers being called out, stopped and surrounded the mob, which was more formidable than yesterday, and the general reasoned with them, telling them efforts were on foot, for their relief, if they'd have a little patience; and then the troops were ordered to disperse them, which they submitted to without any resistance, and again returned to their homes."

From the (N. Y.) Mercantile Advertiser.

[We have seen the original of the following letter. It is in the hands of a very respectable member of the society of Friends, and was communicated for publication in the Mercantile Advertiser, as an evidence (amongst many which might be produced) that our fellow creatures of the African race are not only susceptible of the liveliest gratitude, and capable of attaining to eminence in literature, and in every branch of science: but that slavery, whilst it enervates the body, paralyzes the faculties of the mind also, and reduces both to a state of mutual degradation and debasement.]

Philadelphia, January —, 1800.

SIR,

When the hand of sorrow presses heavy on us, and the generality of mankind turn un pitying from our complaints, if one appears who feels for and commiserates our situation, and endeavours all in his power to alleviate our condition, our bosoms swell with gratitude, and our tongues instinctively pronounce our thanks for the obligation.

We, therefore, Sir, Africans, and descendants of that unhappy race, respectively beg leave to thank you, for the philanthropic zeal with which you defended our cause when it was brought before a part of the general government, by which only we can expect to be relieved from our deplorable state, interested ourselves in the business, because we knew not but ere long we might be reduced to slavery: it might have been said that we viewed the subject through a perverted medium, if you, Sir, had not adopted and nobly supported those sentiments, which gave rise to our petition. Though our faces are black, yet we are men; and though many amongst us cannot write, because our rulers have thought proper to keep us in ignorance, yet we all have the feelings and passions of men, and are as anxious to enjoy the birthright of the human race, as those who from our ignorance draw an argument against our petition; when that petition has in view the diffusion of knowledge amongst the African race, by unfettering their thoughts, and giving full scope to the energy of their minds. While some, Sir, consider us as much property as an house or a ship, and would seem to insinuate, that it is as lawful to hew down the one as it is to dismantle the other, you, Sir, more humane, consider us as a part of the human race, and were we to go generally into the subject, would, say, that by principles of natural law our thralldom is unjust; judge what must be our feelings, to find ourselves treated as a species of property, and levelled with the brute creation; and think how anxious we must be to raise ourselves from this degrading state.

Unprejudiced persons, who read the documents in our possession, will acknowledge that we are miserable! Humane people will wish our situation alleviated! Just people will attempt the task! And powerful people ought to carry it into execution.

Several hundred thousand of the human race were concerned in our petition; their thanks, their gratitude to you, they now express; their prayers for you will mount to Heaven; for God knows they are wretched, and will hear their supplications!

A deep glow now envelopes us; but we derive some comfort from the thought that we are not quite destitute of friends; that there is one, who will use all his endeavours to free the slave from captivity; at least render his state more sufferable, and preserve the free black in the full enjoyment of his rights

This address cannot increase the satisfaction you must derive, from your laudable exertions in the cause of suffering humanity, but it serves to shew the gratitude and respect of those whose cause you espoused.

G. JAMES FORTEN.

The honourable George Thatcher,
member of congress.

In consequence of numerous applications for relief, the legislature of Massachusetts has passed an act, granting to each non-commissioned officer and private who enlisted in the American army as a part of that state's quota, and served till the termination of the war and were honourably discharged, or unto the widows or children of such persons as enlisted and served as aforesaid, and died in the service—two hundred acres of the unappropriated lands of that Commonwealth; or should it be preferred, the selectmen of the several towns are authorized to pay to every applicant that answers the above description, twenty dollars, to be drawn from the public treasury, in lieu of the land before mentioned. This act is intended to answer the two-fold purpose of relieving the wants of that class of men whose meritorious services during the revolutionary war entitled them to the eternal gratitude of their country; and to promote the settlement of lands hitherto vacant.

A letter from St. Thomas (enclosing a copy of the summons from the British commanders requiring the surrender of that island) was received by a gentleman in this city on Saturday last, from which we have been permitted to extract the following:

St. Thomas, 7th April, 1801.

"You will undoubtedly have been informed of the expedition sent out from England under general Trigue and rear-admiral Duckworth, to capture the Danish and Swedish islands. They took St. Bartholomews first, then St. Martins, this island, and St. Croix. I take the liberty of enclosing you a copy of the summons and surrender, &c. of this island—the same summons was sent to St. Bartholomews and St. Croix; I have not seen the capitulation of the former, or of St. Martins, at which latter place there was some small resistance. The governor of St. Croix surrendered to the summons, without capitulating; of course the Danish and Dutch loans are sequestered.

"A fleet of six sail of the line has escaped out of Brest waters; admiral Calder, with nine sail and three frigates, followed after them, and arrived off this island last Thursday—but never fell in with the French, they having failed immediately to leeward, fearing a fleet might have failed for the Cape.

"Four companies of the royals No. 1, command here, and two companies of blacks of the Martinico regiment. The 64th, of about 1100 men, are at St. Croix. There never were better troops—their conduct, as also that of the fleet, do honour and credit to his majesty.

"The French consul Michael is sent to Guadaloupe; they gave him up all his papers, appertaining to the delegation, &c.

"Americans will be allowed in these islands to take off coffee, sugars, for half proceeds of their cargoes—the rest in cash or dry goods. It is said the forced trade will be carried on as before.

"No Spanish property has been touched, and the Spanish prisoners were all released and sent down to Porto-Rico. Measures will be taken to make this port a kind of free port, by endeavouring to cultivate a trade with the Spanish Main and Porto-Rico. A capitulation has been agreed upon at St. Croix, similar to the one here. All Danish ships are given up to their owners, on security being entered into for their value in case of a declaration of war."

May 6.

Extract of a letter from Carthage, to a merchant in this city.

"The English sloop of war Legere, of 24 guns, captain Clinton, was cast away about 12 leagues from Carthage—the captain and crew surrendered themselves prisoners of war.

"A Spanish privateer brought into Carthage, the 25th February, an English brig from Jamaica to Cape-Francois. She had on board Mr. Rush, midshipman, (son of Dr. Rush) and eight sailors, belonging to the frigate Adams, who had brought into Jamaica an English vessel, retaken from the French by the frigate, and were as passengers on board when brought into Carthage."

Arrived yesterday, the ship Martha in 34 days from Portsmouth, England. Her London papers are not later than those brought by the Active and Sampson, of course they do not furnish us with any additional articles of news.

The Martha sailed from Portsmouth, the 30th March.

A few days ago, on soundings, captain Martin spoke the brig Lark, Wicks, from Gonaives, out 12 days.

We have been politely favoured with the Norfolk Herald of the 2d instant, which contains the following

LATE INTELLIGENCE FROM EUROPE.

The ship Wooddrop Sims, arrived here yesterday from Rochelle, failed on the 28th of March, and the same evening was boarded by an English cutter, tender to the Doris frigate: at 4 o'clock next day was boarded by the Doris, who informed that they were waiting for the remainder of the French fleet from Brest and l'Orient, that were to assemble at Rochefort, as was supposed, on some secret expedition, there had arrived at Rochefort, 10 days before their departure, an 84, a 74, and two frigates, from Brest and l'Orient, and were in daily expectation of many

more, as the fleet was intended to consist of 25 sail, most of which were to be line of battle ships.

On the 22d of March, all the private copper-bottomed ships and brigs in France, were put in requisition, for the purpose of making transports of them, for the intended expedition against Portugal. Eighteen thousand men were assembled in the neighbourhood of Bourdeaux, and were to be increased to 30,000, to go from that place against Portugal. The Portuguese ambassador passed through Bourdeaux on the second of March, on his way to Paris; and on the 7th of March a general embargo through Spain was laid on all Portuguese vessels.

The queen of Spain died on the 26th February. Provisions in France were remarkably plenty and cheap. Orders have been given to British ships not to molest the Prussian flag.

The above ship was detained 30 days on account of the supposed rejection of the treaty by the senate; nor was she permitted to sail until the news of its ratification reached France.

May 7.

A Norfolk paper of the 29th ult. says—"By an arrival at this port from the West-Indies, we are informed that the island of St. Eustatius was captured by the British about the 20th March."

The Madona Rosario arrived at New-York yesterday from Messina in 120 days passage. The captain informs, that orders have been issued at Malaga for all vessels from America to perform a quarantine of 40 days. That it was reported at Malaga that an action had taken place between an English and Danish frigate, which terminated in the capture of the Danish, who was carried into Gibraltar. That it was also reported that a French fleet of men of war had passed Malaga about the middle of February.—Malaga was crowded with Danes and Swedes, who resorted thither to be out of the way of the British.

The above-mentioned captain also informs, that he left at Messina on the 6th of January, the ship Louisa, Ramisdale, of Philadelphia. She had put in there on her way to the Levant, and was detained by order of the American consul at Naples, without any reason being assigned for such a measure. The brig Fox, of Boston, on her way to the Levant, put into Messina, and was likewise detained by the American consul.

The schooner Trial arrived at New-York from Point-Petre, and brings information of a French fleet being expected there to go against Martinique.

The schooner Betsey, at New-York, from Havana. The captain informs, that an embargo was to be put on all vessels in the Havana the day after he sailed, 14 days ago.

We understand, at the general meeting of the Friends, lately held in this city, a very melancholy account of the distresses of their brethren and others, in England, in consequence of the great scarcity of the necessaries of life in that country, was laid before that body, which immediately took the subject into consideration, and came to a resolution to recommend the opening of subscriptions in their different societies for the benevolent purposes of affording relief to the unfortunate subjects of this distressing calamity. We further learn that the disposition evinced by the individuals of this very respectable denomination of christians, in furthering the laudable attempts of the meeting, proposes an honourable issue to the praiseworthy undertaking.

May 9.

A CHALLENGE.

Captain Clark, of the sloop Betsey, arrived at New-York, in three days from Norfolk, informs, that the British frigate Boston had arrived in Hampton Road, four days before he sailed, and intended waiting for the French frigate Semillante, and that the captain of the Semillante received a challenge from the captain of the Boston, to come out and meet him at sea; to which the captain of the French ship replied, that, if he would assure him, on honour, no other British ship should interfere, he would accept it. The Semillante was lying in Norfolk. It was generally supposed that a meeting would take place.

CHARLESTON, April 25.

Captain Hunter of the brig Friendship, who arrived here yesterday, was at St. Thomas, when that place was taken by the British. Being in the offing, he was by signal ordered in; but took advantage of a heavy squall to effect his escape, and ran down the south side of Porto-Rico. While passing through the Mona passage, he was brought to by a French frigate, treated politely, and without detention, permitted to proceed. At the same time discovered 7 sail of the line, some of which were ninety guns, they appeared to stand for Jamaica.

WASHINGTON, May 4.

Arrived on Friday James Madison, secretary of state.

We understand that in consequence of the declaration of captain Truxton to command the Squadron fitting out in Hampton Roads, captain Dale has been appointed to that duty; and that captain Bainbridge has been appointed to supply the place of captain Prebble, who from indisposition is unable to fill it.

The Squadron is expected to sail between the 10th and 15th instant.

It is with sincere pleasure that we inform the public, that on the 1st instant all the shares of stock for the erection of a bridge over the eastern branch of the Patowmack were subscribed for. The company are authorized, if necessary, to call for 45,000 dollars.

This sum will be fully adequate to the erection of a permanent bridge—whereby a constant intercourse