

SIR, Here is in one of your late papers, an excellent letter from the *New-York Journal*, for which the author deserves the thanks of every man in New-England:—But he labours under a mistake about the *unhealthfulness* of Cape Breton, which has not been clear'd up to the public, tho' vulgarly known among ourselves.

Indeed it is as sickly as *Jamaica*, yet it would be as well worth the preserving; for if the *French* had *Louisbourg* for the rendezvous of their men of war and privateers, neither *Jamaica*, nor any one of the *American islands and colonies*, would be of much benefit to *Great Britain* in a time of War.

But in fact, there is no reason to think, or pretend it is more unhealthy than *Newfoundland*, on one side, or *Canso* and *Nova Scotia* on the other, which are all remarkable for healthiness.

The occasion of this bad character was the sickness and mortality among our forces after the siege, much magnified by such as were enemies to the conquest: But that sickness was owing to *stagnant Camps*, which must have produced the same effects, on the healthiest spot of ground on the globe.

The brave men who conquered *Louisbourg*, had never seen a Camp or a Fortified Town, and were ignorant of a Camp or Garrison: And having no women to dress their victuals, and keep them clean, they, as it were, poisoned themselves with their own business, not eating their food half dress'd. Nor could better be expected. When King WILLIAM, after the *resistance*, sent ten thousand new rais'd men to *Ireland*, the greatest part died the first campaign, tho' they lay encamped all summer, without battle or siege. This was ascribed at first to the *unhealthfulness* of the place where they were encamp'd, but it was afterwards known, that the *Dutch* and *French* Refugee Troops that lay encamp'd close by them, scarcely lost a man. And the difference was entirely owing to this, that the new rais'd men knew not how to dress their victuals, and keep their *quarters clean and wholesome*.

To this must be added, that the *French* inhabitants of *Louisbourg*, had the fall before taken a very malignant fever from the sickly *East India* ships, and were not cleared from it at the surrender of the place. Besides, the *French* had during the siege, to increase their natural sickness, that the whole town was a meer *jakes*, and their *roads* like to many common *paths*.

Another occasion of the sickness of our poor people, was their disappointment of returning home to their families and business in 3 or 4 months, as they expected; In stead of which, many were necessarily detained there as garrison soldiers, above a year. Had the two regiments from *Girolator* arrived there in season, instead of going to winter in *Virginia*, our people had generally come back in health: Being thus detain'd beyond their expectation, their cloaths wore out, &c. they were at first highly exasperated, and then as much dispirited, and who can wonder that men in such circumstances were careless of themselves, and a prey to the usual camp distempers.

These are sufficient reasons why so many of our victorious troops fell a sacrifice at that time, and sufficiently argue the place itself to be in no sort remarkably unhealthy. Nor has it been found so since the garrison has been established: Nor did the *French* complain of it before.

Sir, These things I believe will offend none of your readers, but do a pleasure to many, as they may remove a very plausible Objection against *Louisbourg*. I am, Yours, &c.

Extract from the Votes of the General Assembly of New York, Dit Luna, 19th of October, 1747.

A MESSAGE from his Excellency by Mr. Banyar, Deputy Secretary; which being read, is in the Words following, viz.

Gentlemen,

IN obedience to his Majesty's commands, I am to inform you, that his Majesty has, for the present, laid aside the expedition intended against *Canada*, and has ordered the forces levied in *America* for that expedition, to be discharged, except so many of them as it shall be thought requisite to retain for the defence of *Nova-Scotia*. I am farther directed to recommend it to you, to furnish such sums of money or credit, as may be wanted to pay the forces levied in this province for that expedition, 'till it be provided for by parliament; for which purpose, accounts of the whole expences incurred on account of the *American* troops, from the time of their being levied, to the time of their discharge, is to be transmitted to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

His Majesty hopes you will comply with this demand without difficulty; and I may add, that as I have paid the private men to the 24th of June last, and two months pay to the subalterns; the demand on this province will be so much lessened at the time of their dismissal. The like demand is to be made on the other colonies who levied troops for the same service.

On this occasion, I shall renew the proposal I formerly made you, of retaining what number of the levies now at *Albany*, you shall be willing to pay, for the present defence of the frontiers of this province; by which likewise the charge of raising new levies, in pursuance of the agreement entered into with the colonies of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Connecticut*, may be much lessened.

As it is become necessary, that I know your resolutions on these heads without delay; and to prevent the proposing conditions, when may occasion delay, whatever of these forces are to be retained, must be retained on the same pay, both as to officers and private men, on which they entered into his Majesty's service; and that in case you do not retain all that are now remaining at *Albany*, after they shall be reduced into compact companies of 100 men each, as I formerly propos'd to you; the choice of such as I shall think most proper for the service, must be left to me. After I shall know your resolutions, to comply with the whole or any part of what I now propose, Estimates of the sums requisite, shall be laid before you. I must again repeat, his Majesty's service requires that I know your resolutions without delay, an express which came from *Boston*, being detain'd for that purpose. G. CLINTON.

ANNAPOLIS.

Last Friday an old Negro Fellow, belonging to Mr. Lane in *Talbot County*, being about to beat his Wife, was prevent'd by some of his fellow Slaves; on which he took up an Axe, and split one Negro Man's Head, so that he died on the Spot; and wounded two Wenches so much, that the Life of one of them was despair'd of: After which the said Negro went to a Tree at a small Distance from the Quarter, and hang'd himself with his Belt.

December 13. The General Assembly of this Province, which were to meet on Monday last, are not yet met. The Honourable Speaker, and some of the Members of both Shores, notwithstanding the Severity of the Season, came to Town that Day; but there not being a sufficient Number to make a House, his Excellency the Governor prorogued them from Day to Day; and yesterday, 'till Monday next. Expresses are sent to some other of the Members, to be then here, at which Time it is expected there will be a number sufficient.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE Court-House of *Prince George's County* being now of Wood, and very much decayed, the Shingles also being so much worn, that in driving Rains and Snow, the Records get wet; by which the Properties of all those concerned in the said Records are endangered: The Justices of the said County have therefore resolv'd to repair the said House, and make the Walls of Brick, having levied a Quantity of Tobacco on the Inhabitants of the said County, and have accordingly appointed us the Subscribers, to endeavour to agree with Workmen to do the said Work. And as the present Court-House is vastly too small, there is a Subscription for making such Additions, as are necessary to make the said House beautiful and convenient. The whole Work will be a considerable Job.

Any Person or Persons inclinable to undertake the same, are desired to be at *Upper-Marlborough*, on the 20th Day of February next; where Attendance will be given for that Purpose.

December 14, 1747.

EDWARD SPRIGG,
THO. MARSHALL,
FRANCIS WARING,
JOHN COOKE.

BROKE away, on the 13th of December, from the Ship *Edinburgh*, then in the Bay, off *Annapolis*, James Russell Commander; A new seven-oar'd Pinnace, with seven Oars, a Rudder, and Tiller.

Whoever will give Intelligence of the said Pinnace, to Mr. Middleton, in *Annapolis*, so that the may be had again, shall have Thirty Shillings Reward, or if they will bring her to the said Mr. Middleton, they shall receive a Reward of Thirty Shillings, and reasonable Charges.

To be SOLD,

A LIKELY, strong, young Negro Woman, fit for Town or Country Business. Enquire of the Printer hereof.