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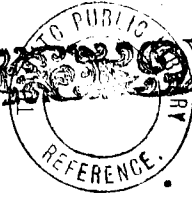
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# THE Gentleman's Magazine;

For JUNE 1754. JUN 20 1935

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## The Life of JEDEDIAH BUXTON.



HE accounts of *Jedediah Buxton*, which have already been publish'd in the Magazine (See Vol. lxxi. p. 61, 347, and lxxiii. p. 557) were so extraordinary that many have questioned if they were true; and several letters have been sent to the editor by his friends, to know whether they were fictions written merely for amusement, or whether they were intended as satires upon the pretensions or performances of any adept in arithmetical calculations. To the assurances which were then given of the certainty of the facts, upon the known integrity of the gentlemen by whom they were communicated to the press, much stronger testimony may now be added: *Jedediah* has lately resided several weeks at *St John's Gate*; and to perpetuate the memory of a person so extraordinary, as well as to gratify the curiosity of our correspondents, a print, which extremely resembles him, is prefixed to this Magazine.

With this print it was greatly wished some account of his life could be given; but the life of laborious poverty is necessarily uniform and obscure: The history of one day would almost include the events of all. Time, with respect to *Buxton*, changed nothing but his age, nor did the seasons vary his employment, except that in winter he used a flail, and in summer a ling hook; some particulars however, both of his character and his life, which have not yet been mentioned, we have taken this opportunity to communicate to the public.

His grandfather, *John Buxton*, was vicar of *Elmeton* in *Derbyshire*, and his father, *Wm Buxton*, was schoolmaster of the same parish; but *Jedediah*, notwithstanding the profession of his father, is extremely illiterate, having, by what-

ever accident, been so much neglected in his youth as never to have been taught to write: How he came first to know the relative proportions of numbers, and their progressive denominations, he does not remember; but to this he has applied the whole force of his mind, and upon this his attention is constantly fixed, so that he frequently takes no cognizance of external objects, and when he does it is only with respect to their numbers: The same attention of his mind appears as well by what he hears as by what he sees. If any space of time is mentioned, he will soon after say, that it is so many minutes, and if any distance of way, he will assign the number of hair's breadths, without any question having been asked, or any calculation expected by the company.

By this method he has greatly increased the power of his memory, with respect to figures, and stored up several common products in his mind, to which he can have immediate recourse, as the number of minutes in a year, of hair's breadths in a mile, and many others. When he once comprehends a question, which is not without difficulty and time, he begins to work with amazing facility, and will leave a long question half wrought, and, at the end of several months, resume it, beginning where he left off, and proceeding regularly till it is completed.

His memory would certainly have been equally retentive, with respect to other objects, if he had attended to other objects with equal diligence; but his perpetual application to figures has prevented the smallest acquisition of any other knowledge, and his mind seems to have retained fewer ideas than that of a boy of ten years old, in the same class of life. He has been sometimes asked, on his return from church, whether he remembered the text, or any part of the sermon, but it never appeared that he brought away one sentence: His mind, upon

upon a closer examination, being found to have been busied, even during divine service in its favourite operation, either dividing some time or some space into the smallest known parts, or resolving some question that had been given him as a test of his abilities. His power of abstraction is so great that no noise interrupts him; and, if he is asked any question, he immediately replies, and returns again to his calculation, without any confusion, or the loss of more time than his answer required. His method of working is peculiar to himself, and by no means the shortest or the clearest, as will appear by the following example:

He was required to multiply 456 by 378, which he had completed as soon as a person in company had produced the product in the common way; and upon being requested to work it audibly, that his method might be known, he multiplied 456 first by 5, which produced 2280, which he again multiplied by 20, and found the product 45600, which was the multiplicand multiplied by 100; this product he again multiplied by 3, which produced 136800, which was the sum of the multiplicand multiplied by 300; it remained therefore to multiply it by 78, which he effected, by multiplying 2280 (the product of the multiplicand multiplied by 5) by 15; 5 times 15 being 75; this product being 34200, he added to the 136800, which was the multiplicand multiplied by 300, and this produced 171000, which was 375 times 456; to complete his operation therefore, he multiplied 456 by 3, which produced 1368, and having added this number to 171000, he found the product of 456 multiplied by 378 to be 172368.

Thus it appears that his arithmetic is perfectly his own, and that he is so little acquainted with the common rules as to multiply 456 first by 5, and the product by 20, to find what sum it would produce multiplied by 100, whereas, if he had added two noughts to the figures, he would have obtained it at once.

The only objects of *Jedediab's* curiosity, except figures, were the king and royal family, and his desire to see them was so strong, that, in the beginning of the spring, he walked to London on purpose, but at last returned disappointed, the king having just removed to Kensington as *Jedediab* came into London. He was however introduced to the Royal Society, whom he called the *volk of the Siery Court*: the gentlemen who

were present asked him several questions in arithmetic, to prove his abilities, and dismissed him with an handsome gratuity.

During his residence in London he was carried to see King *Richard III.* performed at *Drury Lane* playhouse, and it was expected either that the novelty and the splendour of the show would have fixed him in astonishment, or kept his imagination in a continual hurry; or that his passions would, in some degree have been touched by the power of action, if he had not perfectly understood the dialogue; but *Jedediab's* mind was employed in the playhouse just as it was employed at church. During the dance he fixed his attention upon the number of steps; he declared after a fine piece of musick, that the innumerable sounds produced by the instruments had perplexed him beyond measure, and he attended even to Mr *Garrick* only to count the words that he uttered, in which, he says, he perfectly succeeded.

*Jedediab* is now safely returned to the place of his birth, where, if his enjoyments are few, his wishes do not seem to be more: He applies to his labour, by which he subsists with cheerfulness; he regrets nothing that he left behind him in London, and it is still his opinion, that a slice of rusty bacon affords the most delicious repast.

*Account of a Journey from Williamsburg to the French Fort, near the Lake Erie, in Virginia.*

THE French having been lately erecting forts, and making settlements upon the river *Ohio*, in the western parts of *Virginia*, which are known to be the property of *Great Britain*. Major *George Washington* was sent by Governor *Dinwiddie*, with a letter to the French commandant on that river, by which he was required to depart.

Mr *Washington* set out on the 31st of October 1753, and reached *Will's Creek* on the 14th of November; from whence he proceeded the next day with Mr *Gist*, a person whom he had engaged as a guide, a French interpreter, two Indian traders, and some other attendants and servants, with horses and proper accommodations for the journey.

At a small distance from the fork of the *Ohio*, after 27 days travel, he called upon *Sbringsis*, king of the *Delaware Indians*, who went with him to *Logg's town*, where he intended to assemble the chiefs of the Six Nations, in order

to engage them in his interest, and induce them to renounce all connexion with the *French*.

One of the chiefs, called the *Half King*, who had lately been a journey to the *French* commander, was absent at his hunting-cabbin, but a messenger being immediately dispatched to him, he came the next day. Mr *Washington* took him aside, with his *Indian* interpreter, and enquired the view of his expedition, and how he had succeeded.

The chief told him, that he remonstrated against their encroachments on a territory which belonged neither to them nor to the *English*, declaring that he would keep both at arms length, and would join in amity with that side only which withdrew into those bounds that had originally been prescribed: That he was answered by the *Frenchman* with great haughtiness, who said, that he feared not *flies* or *mulquetas*, and such he held the *Indians* to be; that they might expect kindness if they submitted to his will, and if not he would tread them under his feet.

On the 26th of Nov. Mr *Washington* met the chiefs in council, when they agreed that the *wampum*\* delivered by the *French* to them should be returned, as a symbol of abolishing all agreements between them; that some of them should attend Mr *Washington* with a sufficient guard for his defence, and some of their best hunters to furnish him with provisions during the journey.

After a delay of some days, he set out with three of the chiefs, the *Half King*, *White Thunder*, *Jeska Kake*, and one of their best hunters; it having been determined, after more mature consideration, that a greater number might alarm the *French*, and cause them to be rudely treated.

On the 4th of December they arrived at *Venango*, about 60 miles from *Logstown*, where they found the *French* colours hoisted upon a house, from which they had driven *John Frazer*, an *English* subject; to this house Mr *Washington* immediately repaired, and enquired for the commandant; he was soon introduced to three officers, one of whom, captain *Joncaire*, informed him that he had the command of *Ohio*, but that there was a general officer at the next fort, to whom it would be best to apply for an answer. This gentleman treated Mr *Washington* with great com-

plaisance, and invited him to supper; the invitation was accepted, and the wine having soon put an end to the caution of his company, they no longer concealed their designs. They told him that they determined to take possession of the *Ohio*, to which they pretended a right from a discovery made by one *la Solle* 60 years ago; that their view was to prevent the *English* from making any settlements upon it, which they knew they should accomplish, for though the *English* could raise two men for their one, yet their motions were too slow to prevent any undertaking of theirs.

Mr *Washington* had not introduced his *Indian* associates to these gentlemen, because *Joncaire* understood the language, and he feared they might be seduced from their purpose; however the rain that fell on the next day, having rendered it impossible to proceed to the fort, *Joncaire* heard where they had been left, and sent for them.

When they came in he received them with expressions of the utmost joy, gently upbraided them with being to near, and yet neglecting to visit him, gave each of them some trifling presents, and at length made them drunk.

It was now impossible to get them away; they said that all the affairs between their nation and the *French*, were left to Mr *Joncaire*; and with him they would transact them. Accordingly a kind of council was held, and the chiefs were present; they continued firm to their resolution, and offered *Joncaire* the *wampum* which they had determined to return. This however he artfully refused to receive, and desired that it might be delivered to the commandant at the fort.

To the fort however he had no mind they should go, for having eluded the act by which all treaties were vacated, he laboured by every artifice in his power, to detain the chiefs, till Mr *Washington* returned from his expedition, on which he would then have been obliged to proceed alone.

But the *Indian* interpreter having received instructions to be always with them, and Mr *Gist* being sent on purpose to fetch them, they were, with much difficulty brought away, and on the 7th of December, about 11 in the forenoon, the whole company set out for the fort, which was distant about 60 miles.

This journey cost them four days, as it rained and snowed incessantly, and great

\* A string of *Indian* money, which is given as a mark of amity and the ratification of treaties.

great part of the way was mire and swamp : They arrived on the 11th, and on the 12th waited upon the governor, to whom Mr *Washington* offered his commission and letter, which he was desir'd to keep till the arrival of M. *Riparti* from the next fort, upon whom the principal command was just devolved, upon the death of the late general.

This gentleman who is a knight of the order of St *Lewis*, and named *Leguaudeur de St Pierre*, when he had received the letter from Mr *Washington*, immediately withdrew into a private apartment, where the captain translated it, and Mr *Washington* was then desir'd to bring his interpreter to peruse and correct his translation.

On the 13th a council was held to consider what answer Mr *Washington* should carry back, which however he did not receive till the evening of the next day. In the mean time he perceived that every possible art was practis'd upon the *Indians*, to prevent their returning with him : He therefore press'd them to execute their design without delay ; upon their application they were admitted to an audience the same night, when the *Half King* offered the wampum to the commandant, but he declined to take it as *Joncaire* had done at *Venango*. He said, he desir'd to live at peace and trade amicably with them, as a proof of which he would immediately send some goods for them, to *Loggs Town*; he found means to keep them all the 15th, by promising them a present of guns in the morning, and labour'd hard to keep them that day also, but Mr *Washington*, urging their promise not to leave him, nor delay his journey beyond that time, they embarked with him on the 16th in a canoe, which had been well provided with liquor and provision, Mr *Washington* having sent the horses unloaded to *Venango*, as he perceived them to grow weaker and weaker every day, and the snow encreased very fast.

Their passage down the creek was extremely tedious and fatiguing ; they were many times very near being staved against rocks, and many times were oblig'd to get out and remain more than half an hour in the water to get the canoe over shoals : At one place the ice had rendered the stream unnavigable, and they were then compell'd to take their canoe out of the water, and carry it over a neck of land, above a quarter of a mile. As the creek is extremely crooked, the distance by water from the fort to *Venango* is 150 miles, so that

they did not arrive there till the 22d.

As they found the horses waiting at this place, all things were got ready to pursue their journey by land, on the next day, and the *Half King* was ask'd whether he would go with them, or by water ; he answered that *White Thunder* had hurt himself very much, and was unable to walk, so that he should be oblig'd to carry him down in a canoe. Mr *Washington* easily discovered, that he intended to stay some days at *Venango*, and knew that *Joncaire* would repeat his stratagems to let him against the *English* : He therefore admonish'd him to be upon his guard, and not suffer his resolution to be shaken by flattery and fair speeches. The king reply'd, that he knew the *French* too well to be the dupe of any artifice which they could practice, and that although he could not accompany his friend, yet he would meet him at the forts, and pronounce a speech for him to carry to the governor.

The horses were now so feeble, and the baggage so heavy, that it was doubted, whether they would be able to perform the journey. Mr *Washington*, and Mr *Gist*, therefore gave up their horses to assist in carrying the baggage, and the major having put himself into an *Indian* walking dress, proceeded on foot. The horses however being every day less able to travel, he found if he walk'd with them he should be greatly delay'd, that the cold increased very fast, and that the roads were made worse every hour, by a deep snow continually freezing ; he therefore, being impatient to report his proceedings, determin'd to prosecute his journey the nearest way through the woods. Accordingly on the 26th he left his attendants in charge of the baggage, with money, and directions to provide necessaries for themselves from place to place ; and having wrapped himself in a watch coat, he set out with his gun in his hand, and a pack containing his papers and provisions, at his back, accompanied only by Mr *Gist*, who was equipped in the same manner.

The day following, just as they had pass'd a place called the *Murdering Town*, they fell in with a party of *French Indians*, who had laid in wait for them, one of whom fired at them, but fortunately miss'd his mark ; though he was not distant more than 15 paces. As soon as the report of the piece had put the travellers upon their guard, the *Indians* made off, except the fellow that fired, whom

## End of his expedition.—

## -American Contest. 321

whom they seized and kept in custody all 9 at night; when they suffered him to escape, and continued walking all the remaining part of the night, without making any stop, that they might the next day be out of the reach of pursuit, knowing that they would be tracked as soon as it was light.

The next day also they continued travelling till it was quite dark, and reached the river about two miles above *Shannapins*, a town on the fork. They expected to have found it frozen quite over, but the ice extended only about 50 yards from the shore on each side, and great quantities of ice were driving in the middle. There was therefore no way to pass it but on a raft, which they set about, though they had but one hatchet between them, and, after the incessant labour of a whole day, they completed it just at sun set. Upon this raft, having with much difficulty launch'd it, they embarked, but before they got half way over they found themselves fast among the ice, and expected every moment that the raft would be sunk under it, and leave them to inevitable destruction. In this distress, the major put out his setting pole, that, if possible the ice might pass clear of his raft, but the rapidity of the stream drove it with such violence against the pole, that being unwilling to quit it he was jerk'd into ten feet water: He fortunately saved himself by catching hold of one of the raft logs, but with all their efforts they could not get the raft to either shore, and were therefore obliged to quit it at whatever hazard, and make to a neighbouring island; upon this island they continued all night, and the cold to which they were expos'd, was so severe, that Mr *Gist* had all his fingers frozen, and some of his toes; in the morning they found the water shut up, and without difficulty walk'd from the island over the ice to the next settlement. On the 1st of *January* they left this place, and on the 2d, arrived at Mr *Gist's*, where the major provided himself with a horse, and reach'd *Williamsburgh* on the 16th. The purport of the answer which he brought to governor *Dinwiddie*, was, that the Commandant would send his letter to them *aquiss Duguisne*, that whatever he commanded should be done, and that in the mean time he was determined to keep his station.

*Note*, the reader may consult Mr *Pople's* map of *N. America*, for the situation of the several places above mentioned.

*Some Account of the Encroachments made by the French on the British Settlements in America. (See p. 252.)*

**A** IN the treaty of *Utrecht*, which was confirm'd by that of *Aix la Chapelle*, the *Indians* called the *Six Nations*, were acknowledged by *France* to be subject to *Great Britain*, and it is stipulated that neither these, nor any other *Indians*, who were friends to the *English*, should be molested by the *French*, but that the subjects of both crowns should enjoy free liberty of going and coming to the colonies of either, for the promotion of trade as a common benefit.

**C** In the year 1742, the six nations entered into treaty with several other nations which had been conquered by them, were then in their alliance, and traded with the *English*: The warriors of these nations amounted at least to 17,000, and with those of the six nations were able to burn all the *Indians* in *Canada*.

**D** Since this time therefore, the *French* have been indefatigable in their attempts to draw off the six nations, and their allies, from the *English* interest to their own; and also to engage the tribes which inhabit the vast countries that lie along the great lakes and rivers to the West of the *Apalachian* mountains, which are more than double the number of the six nations and their allies, in a design to exclude the *English* from all trade and commerce with them.

**E** In order to accomplish this project, they have entered the country of these *Indians*, upon the back of his majesty's southern colonies, and within the limits of his territories, with large bodies of troops, seized the effects, and captivated the persons of the *English*, whom they found trading there, absolutely denied their right to traffic with those nations, and erected a line of forts upon all the lakes and rivers, from *Canada* to *Mississippi*, to prevent such traffic; at the same time committing hostilities against some of the tribes that were in friendship with the *English*, engaging others to take up the hatchet against them, and threatening destruction to all who should oppose their design of driving them out of that country: They have also pushed on their encroachments with equal vigour, quite round his majesty's eastern colonies, where they have engaged all the *Indians* to act with them against the *English*.

If the *French* prevail in the first part of this scheme, and gain a general influence

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**H** If the *French* prevail in the first part of this scheme, and gain a general influence

fluence and dominion over the *Indians* behind the *Apalachian* mountains, they will, in a few years, have a most formidable army of *Indians* at their command, who, instead of being maintained at their expence, will greatly enrich them, by carrying on with them an exclusive fur trade; his majesty's southern colonies will be continually harrassed by these *Indians*, at the direction of the *French*, who will support them from *Canada* on one side, and *Mississippi* on the other; and their retreat behind the mountains will be secured by a strong line of forts, which command the navigation of all the lakes and rivers. If the *French*, at the same time, can also accomplish their design against the Eastern provinces, in which they are already far advanced, all the *English* colonies will be involved in one general calamity, and our enemies must remain sole masters of the continent.

To prevent the execution of projects so fatal to our trade, and derogatory from our honour, several measures have been taken: In *October* 1753, Major *Washington* was dispatched by Mr *Dinwiddie*, governor of *Virginia*, to require them, in a solemn manner, to withdraw from the banks of the *Ohio*, which they were persisting to fortify, and also to engage the six nations to continue firm in their attachment to *England*. But the *French* having refused to depart, and the *Indians* being found wavering, orders were soon after received from *England* to repel force with force, and not only to prevent them from building forts on the *Ohio*, but to drive them from all the settlements which they have made contrary to treaty, and in violation of the known boundaries to which the two nations had agreed. In consequence of these orders, a number of forces from the several provinces were ordered to form a camp upon the *Ohio*, to the amount of two thousand men, and several sums of money were voted, as well to support these troops, as to raise more, to the amount of 200,000 *l*.

While these forces were assembling, the *French* pushed their encroachments still farther, and committed yet more open hostilities.

They took the Block-house and Truck house erected by the *Virginians* at *Log's-Town* on the *Ohio*, cut off all the traders but two, and carried off in goods, furs, and skins, to the amount of 20,000 *l*. sterling, so that the skin-trade in that part is totally obstructed.

A body of 1000 men, under the

command of Monsieur *de Contrecoeur* in 300 canoes, and 16 battoes, with 18 pieces of cannon, came from *Venango* to a fort on the forks of *Monongabella*, where an *English* officer, with three and thirty soldiers were in garrison; and marching in regular order within musket shot of the fort, demanded an immediate surrender, and threatened upon his refusal to take it by force. The great superiority of the *French* obliged the officer to comply with their demand, having obtained leave to march out with all that the fort contained. Soon after he met, first, with the forces that had been ordered from *Alexandria* to reinforce him, and then with 150 men, under the command of lieutenant *col. Washington*, but not being strong enough to hazard a battle, they intrenched themselves at *Redstone* creek, distant about 7 miles from the fort which had been abandoned.

The camp, however, was at length formed, and four or five waggons with provisions having been dispatched for its support, the *French* gained intelligence of them, and detach'd a party of 35 men to intercept them; but Captain *Washington* immediately marched with 45 men to sustain them, and a skirmish ensued, in which all the *French* were either killed or taken prisoners, except 3, who were afterwards intercepted and scalped by some *Indians*.

In the mean time, letters were dispatched from *England* to the several governors of all our settlements, acquainting them, that his majesty had ordered a sum of money to be issued for presents to the six nations, as their revolt to the *French* must inevitably put an end to our interest in that part of the continent, and directing the governor of *New York* to hold an interview with them for the delivery of such presents.

These letters were communicated by the several governors to each other, and commissioners from every province were chosen to be present at the interview, which was appointed to be at *Albany* on the 14th day of *June*; at this interview, pursuant to directions from the board of trade, it is proposed, that all the provinces shall be comprized in one general treaty or league of friendship with the six nations, as the most effectual expedient to fix them in our interest, with stipulations to build forts in their country, wherever it shall be thought necessary for their common interest; and a promise, that in the forts already built, and to be built

built hereafter, the same protection shall be afforded them, as is afforded by the *French* to their *Indian* allies, whose wives and children they receive, while the husbands and fathers go out to war.

What was the issue of this interview cannot yet be known, but we shall endeavour to gratify the curiosity of our readers by relating the events that shall arise in this important affair, in a regular series, and support them by proper authority.

*Account of our Affairs in America, (continued from p. 323.)*

THE congress at *Albany*, between the *Indians* of the six nations, and commissioners from our provinces in *America*, which had by several accidents been delayed beyond the appointed time, has been since held, but the number of *Indians* was much smaller than usual on such occasions. A state of the *British* interest on the continent was drawn up, and a plan of a general union projected, which the commissioners are to lay before their constituents. In the mean time, the *Indians* renewed the treaties already subsisting, and declared a resolution to take up the hatchet against the *French* and their allies, desiring the assistance of the *English* to drive them out of the country.

The transports got safe into *Casco* bay, the beginning of *July*, and the soldiers were all in perfect health. At this place they met with 42 *Indians* of the *Norridge-wock* tribe, and the governor immediately began a treaty with them, for building a fort on the *Teutonic* falls; to this they at first objected, but soon afterwards agreed, adding that he might build on the *Kennebeck* where he would, and settle the land which his nation had fairly purchased. After this concession, they had a grand dance, and departed before the arrival of the *Penobscotts*, whom the governor had invited by an express, and has since received intelligence that they are coming.

On the other side, the *French* have this season reaped a crop of corn from the lands on the borders of the *Ohio*, which will be sufficient to subsist the troops, with which they are carrying on their invasions, till the next year.

Col. *Washington* with 400 men, having encamped in a wood, at the great meadows, on the *Ohio*, and defeated a party of *French*, that had been dispatched to intercept some provisions, (See p. 322. col. 2. D.) received intelligence soon afterwards, that the *French* hearing what had happened, and that he was soon after to be reinforced with 500 men from *New York*, were marching 900

men from *Monongabela* to attack him.

The Colonel immediately prepared to defend himself against such a superiority, as well as he could, and began to throw up another intrenchment; but before it was finished, the sentinel gave notice that the enemy was approaching, by firing his piece. As the signal piece of the sentinel was loaded, and fired at the enemy, it killed three men, and the fire was immediately returned in battalions, but at 600 yards distance, and without effect; the men were then called to arms, and drew up before the trenches, but waited for the nearer approach of the enemy to return their fire. Upon this they moved very irregularly to another point of the woods, at the distance of about 60 yards, and there made a second discharge. The Col. perceiving by this conduct, that they were determined not to attack in the open field, ordered his men still to reserve their fire, and retire back again into the trenches, which it was expected an attempt would be made to force.

In this expectation, however, he was disappointed, and therefore ordered his men to fire, after which the firing on both sides continued, from eleven in the morning till eight at night, apparently upon very unequal terms, our men being in trenches full of water, during a settled rain, and the *French* defended by the trees. But notwithstanding the advantage of their situation, and the superiority of their numbers, they called a parley, and the Col. suspecting some stratagem, refused to admit them among his people, but at their request sent two officers of his own to receive their proposals, which were, that each side should retire without molestation, they to their fort at *Monongabela*, and we to *Will's* creek. This proposal was accepted, and the next morning our people began their march with beat of drum, and colours flying, but found it necessary to leave behind them the baggage and stores, being obliged to march with the utmost speed, by the want of provisions, and having neither waggons nor horses to transport them, the enemy having killed not only the horses and cattle, but every living creature even to the very dogs. Our loss is said to amount to about 100 men killed and wounded, and that of the *French* to 300. The disadvantage which we have sustained by being thus obliged to abandon the *Ohio*, is imputed to the delay of the reinforcement from *New York*, which ought to have joined Col. *Wash-*

ington many months before this action.

Such is the account laid to be published in the *Virginia Gazette*; but it does not at all agree with the following articles of capitulation.

Capitulation granted July 3. by M. De Villier, com. of his most christian majesty's forces, to the English troops in the Fort of Necessity, built on the lands of the king's dominions.

Article I. We grant the *English* commander to retire with all his garrison, and to return peaceably into his own country; and promise to hinder his receiving any insult from us *French*; and to restrain, as much as shall be in our power, the Savages that are with us.

II. It shall be permitted them to go out, and carry with them all that belongs to them, except the artillery, which we keep.

III. That we will allow them the honours of war, that they march out drum beating, with a swivel gun, being willing to shew them that we treat them as friends.

IV. That, as soon as the articles are sign'd by the one part and the other, they strike the *English* colours.

V. That to-morrow, at break of day, a detachment of *French* shall go to make the garrison file off, and take possession of the fort.

VI. And as the *English* have few oxen or horses, they are free to hide their effects, and come and search for them when they have met with their horses; and that they may, for this end, have guardians in what number they please, upon condition that they will give their word of honour not to work upon any buildings in this place, or on this side of the mountain, during a year, to be accounted from this day.

VII. And as the *English* have in their power an officer, two cadets, and most of the prisoners made in the assassination of the Sieur de Jamonville, [an officer, who was bearer of a citation, as appears by his writings] that they promise to send them back with safeguard to the fort du Guerne, situated on the *Fine* river. And for surety of this article, as well as this treaty, Mr Jacob Vambraam, and Robert Stobo, both captains, shall be left as hostages till the arrival of the *Canadians* and *French* above-mentioned.

We oblige ourselves on our part to give an escort to return in safety those two officers; we expect our *French* in two months and a half at farthest; a duplicate being made upon one of the posts of our blockade the day above.

CON. VILLIER."

By the title of this capitulation, and the general tenor of the articles, it appears that *Washington* was not in trenches, but in a fort, which is called *Fort Necessity*; his men are called the garrison, and the *French* forces a blockade. It appears too, that what he terms calling a-parley, was offering a capitulation; and that the *French* consider the defeat of their party upon pretence that it was about to intercept some provisions going to our camp, (see p. 322. col. 2. D) as an act of unjustifiable violence against

the bearer of a citation, the Sieur Jamonville, whose death they term an assassination. But however this be, we are told that *Washington* was attacked by the *Indians* when he marched away the next morning, who killed some and plundered others, in which it is said they were encouraged by the *French* commander, contrary to the capitulation, who, though he pretended to be much concerned, and ran in among the *Indians* with his sword drawn, yet instead of attempting to restrain and quiet them, he commended their courage.

There have been frequent councils lately held here upon this subject; and we have good authority to say, that our interest in *America* will in a very short time be effectually supported; and the disputes there decided without producing a declaration of war.

#### Account of the Weather continued.

##### BAROMETER

Highest 30  $\frac{1}{8}$ . Lowest 29  $\frac{1}{8}$ .

Greatest variation in one day  $\frac{1}{8}$ .

Common station 30.  $\frac{3}{8}$ .

##### Thermometer within doors.

Highest 67. Deg. Lowest 57.

Greatest variation in one day 7 Deg.

Common station 63 Deg.

The weather during this month has been uncommonly dry, the air, for the most part, temperate and serene; sometimes approaching in the middle of the day to sultry, whilst the mornings and evenings were rather cold than temperate. On the 7th and 8th we had some gentle showers, the wind S. W. and somewhat high; the rest of the month was dry, and the wind northerly.

Cholera's, inflammations of the bowels, rheumatism, and intermittents have been the most common diseases; but a dangerous remittent fever, though not very frequent has been the most alarming; the access is commonly vehement, the rigor like that of a regular tertian, the subsequent heat intense, which generally continues so long, as to shew that it is not of this genus. Partial sweats succeed, which afford no relief, but leave the lassitude and pains of the head and back as assisting as at first. In this state it is common for those who are called in to order bleeding. The blood is *spuria*, not very dense; the serum of a deep yellow; the urine at the same time is crude and high coloured. Bleeding often mitigates the febrile symptoms considerably; but they return in 24 hours, and induce some to bleed a second time. The respite from this second bleeding is frequently more perceptible than the first, but a delirium often follows the next night, with a dry tongue, quick pulse, high-coloured urine, loose acrid stools, catchings, watchfulness, and the most alarming symptoms. Now and then they hold out to the 17th or 18th day, but more commonly drop off about the 14th or 15th.

